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75¢

Ex-Saipan resident missing in Idaho

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Joe Salas, a former resident of Saipan and brother of CNMI delegate candidate Andrew Salas, has gone missing in Boise, Idaho, following a hunting trip this past weekend.



Salas

Joe, who moved to the U.S. mainland some five years ago, also used to be the president of the Saipan Little League Baseball Association, a staff of former representative Ed Salas at the House of Representatives, and used to manage a garment factory in Tanapag. Andrew said his brother went hunting a couple of days ago and hasn't been seen or heard off in the past 48 hours. He said he's worried because the weather in the area where Joe went hunting wasn't so

See EX-Saipan on Page 4

AFTER ROUTINE MEDICAL PROCEDURE

Inos 'doing fine and in good spirits'

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Gov. Eloy S. Inos successfully underwent a routine medical procedure in an undisclosed hospital

3 options for CPA's concession program

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

With DFS' master concession agreement with the Commonwealth Ports Authority expiring on Nov. 13, consultant Ricondo & Associates has presented CPA with three options: a successor master agreement, a duty-free retail concession agreement, or a duty-free retail concession agreement-prepaid.

Noted by Ricondo as the "easiest" option, the first option would bypass a solicitation process and allow DFS to continue as the master concessionaire operating the food and beverage program at the airport.

See CPA on Page 4

in Manila yesterday, according to acting press secretary Ivan Blanco

"I don't have details but the procedure was done quickly and he's doing fine and in good spirits. Much appreciation to the community for their prayers and thoughts. He is looking forward to returning home next week," he said in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

Inos left the CNMI last week for what Blanco described as a "routine medical procedure" that the 65-year-old has been putting off for several months because of his busy schedule.



Inos

In his stead, Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider has

See INOS on Page 4

UKULELE FEST

MARK RABAGO

The music and culture loving community came in droves in last Saturday's first ever Marianas Ukulele Festival Association at Tipiyeew Cultural Village-Carolinian Utt in Garapan. The festival was highlighted by the performance of international ukulele champion Yuki Uchiumi.



INSIDE



NATION

An American health care worker catches Ebola from the man who died.

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WORLD

Donors promise \$2.7 billion to rebuild the war-ravaged Gaza Strip.

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LIFE & STYLE

Penelope Cruz is Esquire's "sexiest woman alive."

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Local

Wickline accuses his Guam counsel of using info against him

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The former president and chief executive officer of United Micronesia Development Association Inc., David L. Wickline, has accused a Guam law firm that is representing him of using confidential information that he gave them against him in order to advance the UMDA litigation.

Wickline, through counsel Colin M. Thompson, said that Calvo Fisher & Jacob LLP is not only at risk of violating its duties to him, it has already breached several of the American Bar Association Model Rules.

Saipan Tribune emailed the

Calvo Fisher law firm yesterday for comments. There was no reply as of press time.

Thompson said the only remedy is to disqualify the Calvo Fisher law firm as UMDA's counsel to prevent further violations.

Last week, U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Consuelo B. Marshall dismissed UMDA's lawsuit against Wickline.

Marshall dismissed with prejudice UMDA's claims for declaratory relief, fraud, and wrongful dilution. That means UMDA cannot re-open the claims.

In the same order, Marshall dismissed without prejudice UMDA's claims for breach

of fiduciary duty, unjust enrichment, and injunctive relief. The judge gave UMDA up to Oct. 22, 2014, to file an amended complaint.

Dismissed without prejudice allows UMDA to re-file the case on those claims in the future.

UMDA filed its lawsuit against Wickline "to protect its shareholders from dilution of their interests in the company, to recover substantial damages that UMDA discovered during the course of its investigation, and to stop Wickline from working behind the scene to undermine shareholder confidence."

Wickline countersued UMDA, seeking monetary damages. The court consolidated the cases.

In Wickline's motion to disqualify filed in federal court, Thompson said Calvo Fisher represents UMDA in this case but the same law firm has also been, and remains, Wickline's counsel in other matters.

Most notably, Thompson said, Wickline sought and received advice from attorney Kathleen V. Fisher, a partner in Calvo Fisher law firm, in June 2013 regarding this UMDA litigation.

When this dispute arose in July 2012, attorney Robert T. Torres represented UMDA as its Saipan counsel.

Thompson said once the October 2013 mediation failed and it became apparent that the dispute might proceed to liti-

gation, Calvo Fisher suddenly turned on Wickline "in order to represent what it presumably perceived to be the client with deeper pockets."

Thompson said over Wickline's objection, Calvo Fisher appeared as co-counsel for UMDA at the second mediation in January 2014.

Two days later, Thompson said, Calvo Fisher placed its name as co-counsel on UMDA's complaint that levels a series of accusations against its own current client.

"Nothing short of Calvo Fisher's disqualification will protect Wickline and preserve the integrity of these proceedings," Thompson said.

Wickline claimed that he

met Eduardo A. Calvo, founding partner of Calvo Fisher law firm, in 2003, and Calvo has been his friend and trusted adviser ever since.

Calvo is both a director and beneficial shareholder of UMDA, Wickline said.

It was Calvo who reportedly recommended that Wickline become a director of UMDA.

Thompson said as a result of his close relationship with Calvo, Wickline frequently engaged Calvo Fisher to represent Wickline's business interests.

Thompson said Calvo Fisher previously represented UMDA in a litigation with its former officers and director, but the firm terminated all matters with

See **WICKLINE** on Page 4

Hafa Adair!

Saipan Tribune

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HANMI

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Vanessa B. Deleon Guerrero
Human Resources Coordinator,
Pacific Islands Club Saipan

Vanessa B. Deleon Guerrero serves as Human Resources Coordinator at Pacific Islands Club (PIC) Saipan since joining the hotel in 2010. Her work includes administrative tasks, assisting employees, and planning employee activities. Prior to PIC, Deleon Guerrero worked at Hyatt Regency Saipan for nearly 10 years.

"When I was in high school, I wanted something challenging. So I said, Why don't I try working for the private sector? As a student just graduating from high school, the easiest way to get a job was at a hotel. Plus, I had some friends that had gone there for co-op education and then were hired as employees.

Being in Human Resources, there's never a dull moment. I love helping employees. I love meeting new people, and I get to meet guests from all over the world. At the end of their stay, they love Saipan, and they love to come back and stay at the hotel.

"All the sacrifices I've made are worth it...because I've come this far."

Working for the hotel industry for nearly 13 years has taught me a lot about balancing my work and personal life, managing my time, and employment growth. At first, it was difficult, because you work over the weekends and you want to spend time with your family. Yet, all the sacrifices I've made through the years being with the hotels are worth it, because I've come this far. I'm very happy with my decision."

Pacific Islands Club Saipan and other HANMI member hotels provide jobs for over **1,600 employees.**

Kilili: Chasing away Cape Air will be bad for CNMI

By **MARK RABAGO**
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

While admitting that he himself is frustrated with the service Cape Air is providing to the people of the CNMI, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) nonetheless said that life without the embattled interisland carrier would leave in the Commonwealth in even worse straits.

“We have to be careful about chasing away Cape Air and United [Airlines]. Because Rota is in the United Airlines’ reservation system, passengers anywhere in the world can see that Rota is a destination and can book a flight. If Rota lost Cape Air and United, Rota would literally disappear. Potential tourists would not see it



Sablan

as a possible place to visit; and, even if they know about Rota, they would find it much more difficult to buy a ticket online and that would be a blow to Rota’s economy,” Sablan said.

However, he said his office is not taking Cape Air’s recent cancelled flights lightly and in fact has put officials of

the airlines to task a couple of times during meetings.

“As for the Cape Air cancellations, I can tell you that I have met with high-level executives from United Airlines in Washington on three separate occasions. I have let them know how very very unhappy their customers are here in the Northern Marianas,” he said.

Sablan, however, believes that the frustration is not con-

finied to CNMI passengers flying the Guam-CNMI route.

“I don’t think that United or Cape Air is very happy either, because they are losing money when they can’t fly. But they have to make safety their priority, so if a plane has a mechanical issue it’s grounded.”

The CNMI non-voting delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives also said he is in favor of Star Marianas launching its own CNMI-Guam service.

“One positive development is the decision by Star Marian-

as to fill in the gap. I just flew with them myself last week. This is what happens when one company stops providing good service: another company steps in. That’s competition. That’s healthy. And that should result in improved service,” he said.

Tinian-based Star Marianas is currently waiting on the Guam International Airport Authority’s go-ahead to start competing against Cape Air in the route. It originally wanted to begin operating the CNMI-Guam last Sept. 15.

COP suggested as a possible caretaker of unwanted gym

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**
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REPORTER

Board of Education member Marylou S. Ada has pointed “across the street” to Coral Ocean Point as a possible suitor to adopt the Koblerville gym that is currently being built that the Public School System may no longer need.

As reported earlier, PSS is reviewing whether they would need such a gym as the recent middle school reconfiguration and the unprecedented population number at Marianas High School may make the need for a new high school a higher priority.

The Koblerville gym was initially intended to be built for the proposed Koblerville Junior High School, but the administrative costs PSS would shoulder with the new gym and the lack of commitment from the government in building a new junior high



Ada

puts its use into question.

“I think it would be good to meet with Coral Ocean Point because the gym is right across. If [COP] can adopt the gym, provide for maintenance [and] repairs as part of community service, they get a tax break for that. I think it’s worth looking into,” Ada said.

Board member Lucy Blanco-Maratita called the idea a “good suggestion.”

“Perhaps there might be another government agency that oversees sports centers [who] they can take over and assume the responsibility,” board chair Herman Guerrero said.

Conversations on the topic continue and “nothing is definitive” so far, Guerrero said.

The gym’s completion date is Dec. 19, barring any weather problems, according to the Capital Improvement Projects office of PSS.

Constructed by Tro-

pex Garden, the gym costs \$1,405,817, with some funds redirected from a proposed but cancelled Saipan Southern High School swimming pool.

FOR SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 2013 \$39.3K OK’d for Tang’s payment

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood has ordered the Settlement Fund to pay its trustee, Joyce C. H. Tang, \$39,272.98 for professional services and expenses incurred during the months of September to December 2013.

Tydingco-Gatewood said the amount represents 90 percent of professional fees and 100 percent of all expenses incurred in September, October, November, and December 2013.

The judge further ordered the Settlement Fund to hold in trust the sum of \$4,149.75, which represents 10 percent of Tang’s professional fees for that period.

Tydingco-Gatewood said Tang may petition for the release of the 10 percent retainage every quarter.

Tang requested for compensation in the amounts of \$41,497.50 in professional services and \$1,925.23 in expenses, for a total of \$43,

422.73 for the four-month period.

The judge said she reviewed her order for payment of the trustee’s invoices for that four-month period that she issued on April 29, 2014.

Tydingco-Gatewood said the April 29 order contained a table summarizing the four invoices Tang submitted for the Settlement Fund.

However, she said, the totals listed on the table did not include the amounts set forth in the September invoice.

In amending the table, Tang said the September invoice contains \$6,450 in professional services and \$421 in expenses, for a total of \$6,871.

Last week, Tydingco-Gatewood ordered the Settlement Fund to pay Tang \$39,656.80 for professional services and expenses incurred from March to May 2014. Last April, the judge also ordered the Settlement Fund to pay Tang \$25,634.25 for professional services and expenses incurred in January and February 2014.

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Status of CNMI bottomfish to be reviewed this week

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee will convene on Oct. 14 to 16 in Honolulu to review management measures for U.S. Pacific Island Fisheries.

On the U.S. Pacific Territory bottomfish, the SSC will review the status of CNMI bottomfish fisheries as well as that of American Samoa and Guam and specify their acceptable biological catches, or ABCs, for 2015.

The ABCs are used to develop the 2015 annual catch limits

for the fisheries.

The annual limit in pounds for CNMI bottomfish was set at 228,000 lbs, according to the National Marine Fisheries Service, whose members serve on the committee.

Dr. Todd Miller of the CNMI's Division of Fish and Wildlife also serves in

the SSC, and Manny Pangelinan, acting secretary of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, serves as council chair.

Another major agenda is the Western and Central Pacific's North Pacific striped marlin. NMFS recently announced that the marlin is in an overfished condition.

Another item is the Hawaii

yellowfin and bigeye tuna. The yellowfin tuna stock is considered biologically healthy. The SSC will consider options for

minimum size of yellowfin and bigeye tuna for commercial fisheries operating in federal waters around Hawaii.

Coast Guard cutter *Rush* returns after successful deployment

HONOLULU—The crew of Coast Guard cutter *Rush* returned to its homeport following a successful 72-day deployment in the Central and Western Pacific, Monday.

Rush departed in July 2014 and spent the last two months conducting operations in the Central and Western Pacific.

During the deployment, *Rush*'s crew coordinated with multiple countries and partner agencies to conduct fisheries boardings in support of the Coast Guard's living marine resources mission.

Rush also participated in international engagement activities in American Samoa, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Palau, and the Federated States of Micronesia.

Rush enforced U.S. foreign fishing laws utilizing em-

barked shipriders from Tonga, Tuvalu, and Nauru. *Rush* also enforced Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission regulations. *Rush*'s law enforcement presence increased the Coast Guard's maritime domain awareness across the Pacific.

To enhance detection of fishing vessels, *Rush* embarked a helicopter and aviation detachment from Coast Guard Air Station Barbers Point. In support of *Rush*'s deployment, the helicopter crew investigated potential vessels to be boarded and passed critical information regarding their location, course, and speed.

Rush's crew participated in several community outreach and volunteer events during their patrol that included delivering hygiene and first aid

supplies, in support of the U.S. Navy's Project Handclasp, to several Pacific Island Nations. *Rush* also built a garden to support an abused children's shelter in Samoa and played sports and games with disabled children in Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands.

The efforts of the crew during this deployment highlighted the Coast Guard's commitment to sustaining the Western and Central Pacific fishery while enhancing international relationships with our Pacific Island neighbors, said Capt. Dante Vinciguerra, *Rush*'s commanding officer.

"Whether conducting an at sea boarding or performing search and rescue, it is a pleasure watching cutter *Rush*'s crew in action. Individually they are a skilled group of professionals, but working together they have

made a powerful team throughout the patrol," he said.

The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission seeks to address problems in the management of high seas fisheries resulting from unregulated fishing, over-capitalization, excessive fleet capacity, vessel re-flagging to escape controls, insufficiently selective gear, unreliable databases, and insufficient multilateral cooperation in respect to conservation and management of highly migratory fish stocks.

Rush is a 378-foot high endurance cutter with a range of more than 13,000 miles and a permanent crew of 160 personnel. The *Rush* was launched in 1968 and has been conducting Coast Guard missions for nearly 50 years. For more information on the national security cutter, visit <http://www.uscg.mil/acquisition/NSC/>. (**USCG**)

INOS

From Page 1

been serving as acting governor.

Blanco said Inos' two-week medical leave would end when he returns home before Oct. 24, just in time for the CNMI Republican Party's kickoff election campaign on Rota.

His opponents have used Inos' health as political fodder, especially in the run up to the

Nov. 4 elections.

As reported earlier, the governor has been receiving dialysis treatment for his diabetes thrice a week.

Inos is running against former governor Juan N. Babauta, an independent; former speaker Heinz S. Hofschneider, also an independent; and former Commonwealth Ports Authority executive director Edward "Tofila" Deleon Guerrero in the November polls. Senate Presi-

dent Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) is his running mate.

In other news, acting governor Hofschneider's planned trip to Rota yesterday to inspect the damage brought by Typhoon Vongfong was reset for tomorrow, Wednesday, Oct. 15.

Blanco said pending "paperwork" with the Department of Finance forced them to cancel their trip yesterday.

Supposedly accompanying Hofschneider in the trip to Rota

yesterday were Homeland Security & Emergency Management special adviser Marvin Seaman, Attorney General Gilbert Birnbrich, and Blanco himself.

Hofschneider and company were expected to verify whether the damage sustained on the island, when added to the damage on Tinian and Saipan, will breach the \$1-million threshold that will qualify the CNMI to request for federal disaster funding from President Barack Obama.

EX-SAIPAN

From Page 1

good and the terrain is very rough.

"It's not a good time to be out there, especially at night," he said in a phone interview yesterday.

Andrew said Joe went out with several hunters and all of them, except Joe, returned safely. He said this has put all his campaign activities on hold.

"My brother Joe is missing and my whole family is hurting. My brothers from Las Vegas just flew in to Boise to assist in the search. Another brother from the military is also flying in. I'm currently at the airport in Guam en route to Saipan, but I'm also contemplating flying out to Boise."

Andrew Salas is the eldest of 15 siblings—nine boys and six girls. He said Joe is 50 years old.

"I was with him for six months last year and while we are always close we became closer when he recently was here. He is also my [election campaign] chairman in Boise. It breaks my heart that my brother

is missing. I'm running for office, but my brother means the world to me. I have to make a decision whether to stay or fly to Boise, Idaho. If I do fly, I want to ask all my supporters to please forgive me because I have to do this."

Andrew, a former congressman and Commerce secretary, is running under the Democratic Party banner.

With regards to Joe's wife and their two sons, Andrew said Cathy is going through the episode in her own way "Appreciate all the prayers for the return of my brother to his wife, Cathy, who is heartbroken. We've all supportive of one another."

One thing working for Joe is he is a U.S. Army veteran, according to Andrew.

"My brother is a former Army man. He has survival skills. I know my brother will make it. We just need to be strong physically and emotionally. With God's help will get our brother back."

This incident has brought everyone in the tight-knit CNMI community together as attested by Cathy Salas' Facebook page being inundated with messages

of sympathy and support.

Even Delegate Gregorio Kili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), who Andrew is challenging in the Nov. 4 polls, offered his sympathies to the Salas family.

"I met up with Joe just a few weeks ago at the Portland softball games. So I was shocked when I heard the news that he hasn't returned from hunting in the wilderness of Idaho. Joe is an experienced hunter and we pray that searchers will locate Joe and bring him home to Cathy and their family," said Sablan. "Andrea and I, and I know many others in our communities are praying for Joe's safe return. And we know that our close-knit Commonwealth community in Idaho is there providing solace for Cathy and their children."

The Inos administration also extended its support to Joe's family through Gov. Eloy S. Inos' acting press secretary, Ivan Blanco.

"Mr. Salas is an honorable veteran and a beloved member of our community. We all are praying for his safe return. The local authorities in Idaho are exhausting their efforts to bring

him safely home. He and his entire family are in our thoughts during this difficult time. We ask the community to continue to pray for him and the family."

Joe's friends in the sports community were also stunned at the news.

"It was a shock to us. We didn't expect this to happen. I just met him in the CNMI Labor Day Tournament last month and we talked on the field. I pray for his safe return," said Northern Mariana Sports Association executive director Tony Rogolifoi.

He said Joe served as president of the local Little League program three or four times and was instrumental in improving the state of youth baseball on the island.

In a Facebook posting, Department of Land and Natural Resource Secretary Arnold I. Palacios asked the island community to pray for Joe's safe return.

"I ask that we all pause and pray for our Almighty to give Joe Salas the strength and the will to remain strong as rescuers seek out to find him and to bring him back safely to his family. Please pray for his safe return."

WICKLINE

From Page 2

UMDA in August 2010.

In contrast, Thompson said, Calvo Fisher continued to advise Wickline on various matters through 2013, and the law firm never notified Wickline that it was no longer his counsel.

Thompson said in March 2012, Calvo introduced Wickline to their firm's tax partner, William Davis, who provided tax advice to Wickline, reviewing the latter's tax returns from 2007 through 2010.

CPA

From Page 1

If CPA wishes to improve its food and beverage program and initiate a new concessions program, DFS has a wide range of contacts in the industry to help with this endeavor, Ricondo stated.

Ricondo reported that the current food and beverage program at the Saipan International Airport under DFS "yields revenues that indicate excellent sales."

With the second option, CPA could benefit from competition of bids from multiple concessionaires, according to Ricondo. But the option would separate the food and beverage program at the airport under a non-duty-free concession agreement.

"It is unclear whether or not the food and beverage at [the Saipan airport] is sufficient to interest national and international food and beverage concessionaires," Ricondo said.

CPA would have to determine if it is equipped to bear the administrative burden of managing its own food and beverage program, Ricondo said.

Finally, a "fatal flaw" in this option, according to Ricondo, is the prescribed five-year agreement, which Ricondo described as "uncommonly short."

"It would prevent a concessionaire from investing in a product of a high enough quality to satisfy both the CPA and its international passengers," it stated.

The third option would be needed if CPA needed a source of funds to implement a capital improvement project. A prepayment of rent in the agreement would produce such funds.

While the report noted that CPA has identified no such need, Ricondo recommended that the duty-free store be expanded, the security screening checkpoint at the airport be widened or expanded, and the food and beverage zone reconfigured to have "100 percent" of departing passengers flow through.

Like the second option, a food and beverage program would be under a separate concession agreement.

Thompson said UMDA's complaint contains information regarding Wickline's taxes that Calvo Fisher obtained when Wickline provided confidential information to Davis in February 2012 regarding the 2007 to 2010 taxes.

Thompson said while tax advice is not apparently "substantially related" to this case, Calvo Fisher made the tax representation "substantially related" by using the information against Wickline in the UMDA lawsuit.

Thompson cited American Bar Association Model Rules that Calvo Fisher may have violated.

DFS' original contract was for 20 years and was executed in 1985. Its 1997 successor was for 10 years and started in 2005.

'Remove parameters'

While Ricondo defined the options available to CPA, they also recommended to remove or sunset the law that sets the parameters for the RFP process and the types of concession agreements defined all together.

Right now, under Public Law 4-60, CPA can only enter into three prescribed concession agreements: duty-free retail concession, a master concession, and non-duty-free concession agreement.

The duty-free retail concession agreement grants the exclusive right to operate facilities at a port of entry to deliver duty-free merchandises.

The master concession, currently in place between DFS and CPA, grants the exclusive right to operate facilities—at each and every port—for sale of duty-free merchandise or any other items.

A non-duty free concession can be used with a duty-free retail concession or separately, at a single port of entry, to sell exclusively all or specified non-duty-free merchandise.

The law also prescribes the concession leasing strategy that CPA may pursue.

"It is uncommon for an airport operator's contractual process to be so specifically prescribed by its legal/political structure," the report stated.

Rota and Tinian

Ricondo viewed the opportunity of a duty-free store on Tinian or Rota as "impractical."

They cited the lack of direct flights to international destinations from these airports as a reason. They also noted infrastructure at these airports would have to be improved.

"Passenger traffic is quite low, generating a demand that may be too low to result in the sales that would enable a concessionaire to recover its costs," the reported stated.

They also described air service as "unstable," noting the bankruptcy of Freedom Air and the service disruptions of Cape Air.

PSS: Prohibit CUC from charging late fees in the 1st place

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Public School System and the State Board of Education have forwarded their comments to the Senate regarding House Bill 18-277, which would exempt PSS from late fee charges imposed by the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. for utilities, water, wastewater,

and other related fees.

"We have every intention of paying our CUC bill on time, but as this bill states, the Department of Finance is sometimes delayed in paying us our allotments. In those cases we often have to make impossible decisions on who we should pay and when. Knowing that we will not be penalized for choosing our students is of great comfort,"

board chair Herman T. Guerrero and Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan stated in their letter to Sen. Jovita M. Taimano, who chairs the Senate Committee on Fiscal Affairs.

The officials also cited the maintenance-of-effort money PSS is currently owed by the local government. As reported earlier, an estimated \$9 million to \$11 million is owed PSS.

"These funds would pay our outstanding CUC balance in full. ...This bill does not address [the MOE] but I am thankful for your effort in keeping our financial situation in mind," the letter states.

PSS has been sued in the past for unpaid utility bills, late fees, and interest in the amount of \$5,936,931.55.

The education officials at-

tached to the letter a previous note they sent the House of Representatives that includes suggestions for amendments to the bill's language.

At a board meeting last week, BOE legal counsel Tiberius Mocanu said these suggested amendments would prevent CUC from working around the language of the law by charging different kinds of fees, for example, for late payment.

The two officials want to change the bill's language by prohibiting CUC from charging late fees in the first place, instead of just exempting PSS from paying late fees.

The letter also cited Public Law 18-19, which strictly forbids CUC from billing PSS for water and wastewater at the

government rate.

According to the letter, CUC has continued to bill PSS at the government rate.

The letter also suggests "stronger language" to prevent the charging of "other fees" that are basically "late fees."

The letter suggests CUC be prohibited from terminating, interrupting, or disturbing service to PSS because of unpaid fees or unpaid utilities.

"Although CUC has not resorted to this action yet, it is available to them and should not be. ...CUC will continue to have access to the courts and will continue to be able to sue and collect money for what it is owed. What it will not be able to do is hold PSS functionally hostage," the letter states.

Terminated cop fights DPS action before CSC and court

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A terminated police officer is fighting the Department of Public Safety's adverse action against him before the Civil Service Commission and in Superior Court.

According to court records, Flor Estabillo has appealed DPS's decision to terminate him with the Civil Service Commission.

DPS, through the Office of the Attorney General, moved to dismiss the appeal, asserting that CSC has no jurisdiction over Estabillo's termination.

CSC, however, disagreed, saying it has jurisdiction in the matter. It denied DPS' motion to dismiss Estabillo's appeal. This prompted DPS to bring the issue to Superior Court.

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman issued an order last week, saying he would hear Estabillo's motion to dismiss DPS' appeal on Oct. 30, 2014.

Court documents show that DPS Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero informed then-Police Officer 2 Estabillo on April 8, 2014, that he is being given a 30-day written notice of an adverse action that could result in the termination of his employment.

Deleon Guerrero disclosed that Internal Affairs has determined that Estabillo possessed and used illegal drugs while wearing a police uniform; and that Internal Affairs has determined that he committed misconduct by possessing methamphetamine or "ice."

The commissioner said the

use of "ice" impaired Estabillo's ability to safely report for duty, and that he has chosen to associate with known criminals and persons that are likely to cause the public, and DPS, to doubt his honesty and integrity.

Estabillo then retained attorney Brien Sers Nicholas as his counsel. Nicholas, in a letter to Deleon Guerrero last April 22, asked to be provided with all materials that support the commissioner's actions against Estabillo.

Nicholas said the charges against his client are vague.

Estabillo appealed, asking CSC to overturn his termination last June 11.

DPS counsel, assistant attorney general James Zarones, asked CSC to dismiss Estabillo's appeal, asserting that the commission lacks regulatory authority to hear the appeal.

In Estabillo's opposition to DPS' motion to dismiss, Nicholas argued that because DPS dismissed Estabillo from the civil service system, CSC has the regulatory authority to hear his appeal.

In denying DPS motion to dismiss the appeal, CSC agrees with Estabillo that it has statutory and regulatory authority to hear the appeal.

DPS then asked the Superior Court to stay or suspend CSC's order that requires DPS to turn over its "adverse action file" to the Office of Personnel Management for review and subsequent production to Estabillo.

DPS pointed out that the adverse action file contains confidential information.

Estabillo opposed DPS' motion to stay. Nicholas said it

does not appear that DPS has much chance of succeeding in this case on appeal before the Superior Court.

Nicholas said it is most disturbing for DPS to claim before the court that the actions of pro-

longing this matter unnecessarily will not result in any prejudice to Estabillo.

Nicholas also moved to dismiss DPS' appeal based on its failure to exhaust administrative remedies in this matter.

Woman sues hotel for alleged fall

A woman has filed a lawsuit over the injuries that she allegedly suffered when she slipped and fell in the women's restroom of the Saipan World Resort in Susupe.

Celestial Dela Cruz is suing World Corp., owner of Saipan World Resort Hotel, for negligence.

Dela Cruz, through counsel Victorino DLG. Torres, asked the Superior Court to hold the hotel responsible to pay her unspecified damages, courts costs, and attorney's fees.

Saipan Tribune contacted the hotel yesterday but no one was

available to comment.

Torres stated in the complaint that Dela Cruz had gone to the World Buffet restaurant of the Saipan World Resort on July 2, 2014. After eating lunch, she went to the women's restroom where she allegedly slipped, fell, and sustained injuries.

Torres said Dela Cruz's slip and fall was no fault of her own as she was unaware that the floor was wet.

Torres said the hotel failed, among other things, to provide anti-skid flooring and warning signs indicating a wet floor. (Ferdie de la Torre)

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IT&E

After FY 2014, deferred pensions will rely on funds' availability

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The Settlement Fund on Friday said the fiscal year 2015 funding of 25-percent deferred pension for CNMI government retirees is subject to availability of funds and depends on several factors.

It said the sole funding vehicle for the restoration of retirees' pension is Public Law 18-56 or the Saipan casino law.

"The media has recently reported that the 25 percent payments have been 'restored.' This has led to a lot of confusion among the Settlement Fund members about whether the 25 percent payments will continue to be paid after [fiscal] 2014. Based on the Settlement Fund trustee's reading of Public Law 18-56, which is currently the sole funding vehicle for the 25 percent payments, payment after [fiscal] 2014 will depend on several factors," the Settlement Fund said on its website (www.nmisf.com), under frequently

asked questions that was also emailed to media outlets.

The four factors are the following:

- The continuous payment of the \$15 million annual exclusive license fee by the licensee, Best Sunshine International Ltd.;

- Appropriation of funds by the senatorial districts;

- Identification of \$15 million funding for Year 5 because this amount was paid in 2014; and

- Contribution from the CNMI government for the shortage to pay the full 25 percent payment.

"Thus, the NMI government's ability to fund all or part of the 25 percent payment after [fiscal] 2014 is not a given, and will depend in large part on continuous funding and payment by the licensee and the NMI government to make up any shortage," the Settlement Fund said.

Acting press secretary Ivan Blanco agreed with this interpretation of the Saipan casino law, but said the government will work with the House of

»3Q deferred pension out by Oct. 17

Representatives and the Senate to make sure that 100 percent deferred pension will be paid in a timely manner.

"Gov. [Eloy S.] Inos and the Legislature worked together to provide the 25 percent additional funding to make the benefit payments whole. And both the administration and the Legislature have committed to continue to make the payments 100 percent," he said in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

Aside from being the law that authorized the CNMI government to award an exclusive gambling license to Best Sunshine, the Saipan casino law also provided funding for payment to retirees who are members of the Settlement Fund from the annual license fee paid by the exclusive license holder.

July-September release

The Settlement Fund will release 25-percent deferred pension payments to retirees on Oct. 17, covering July, August, and September.

In an information also posted on its website, the Settlement Fund confirmed that it received \$3.9 million from the CNMI government on Oct. 8, 2014, to pay the 25 percent payment for the period covering July 1, 2014, to Sept. 30, 2014.

It added that while media reports have stated that the October payment would be distributed by Oct. 10, 2014, the Settlement Fund said the Settlement Fund trustee was not consulted about the Oct. 10 distribution date prior to the announcement in the media.

Blanco also admitted that the release of quarterly payments for deferred pension to beneficiaries is a work in progress.

"There is room to improve processes at the Settlement Fund in order to expedite pay-

ments to beneficiaries."

Questions on W-4P

The Settlement Fund also took time to answer questions regarding its controversial deduction of federal income tax on deferred pension payments covering the period of Oct. 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014.

It said W-4P form is an Internal Revenue Service form, which a Settlement Fund member must submit if the member is electing not to withhold any federal income tax from the deferred pension payments. The W-4P form allows the member to elect and to instruct the Settlement Fund not to withhold taxes from deferred pension payments.

"Unless the W-4P form is properly filled out and received by the Settlement Fund by no later than Tuesday, Oct. 14, 2014, the October payment will be subject to a 10 percent tax withholding. In anticipation of the October payment,

the Settlement Fund mailed the W-4P forms to all Settlement Fund members on Sept. 26, 2014, with instructions on how to fill out the form. If you have not received your form, you can obtain the form online from IRS."

The Settlement Fund said based on the number of W-4P it received as of Oct. 9, 2014, about 93 percent of the Settlement Fund members elected not to withhold any tax.

Because of the high percentage of Settlement Fund members electing not to withhold, the Settlement Fund trustee would like to give off-island Settlement Fund members up to Oct. 14, 2014 to submit their W-4P form.

"The additional time is needed to give off-island and on-island retirees the opportunity to submit their W-4P forms to the Settlement Fund, and to ensure fair and equal treatment to on-island and off-island Settlement Fund members."



COASTAL CLEANUP

Seventh-Day Adventist School students have their picture taken just before their participation in the International Coastal Cleanup on Saipan on Sept. 26, 2014. The school's students collected eight bags of trash at Oleai Beach.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Protocol refined on bringing down truancy

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Standard operating procedures for the School Attendance Review Committee are being refined as case referrals come in and the SOP is presented to school administrators to address truancy in public schools.

The SOP will set up the guidelines for referrals to the committee, according to information gathered at a Board of Education meeting last Friday.

As reported earlier this year, the committee was formed as an avenue for public schools to provide intervention for juveniles and their families in addressing truancy, irregular attendance, or insubordinate or disorderly behavior in school before referral to the juvenile justice system.

At the meeting, board chair Herman Guerrero said the committee could serve as a "reminder" for parents "to create greater interest in the welfare of their children."

In an interview, he said SARC has the authority to visit and interview parents and their child at their homes.

So far, four cases system-wide have been referred to the committee, according to board legal counsel Tiberias Mocanu.

No further information was available due to confidentiality policies.

The SOP was described as a "living document" and "bare-bones" but SARC members said the protocol would be refined as more cases come along.

An extensive referral form has been created, according to

Mocanu at the meeting.

He told the board that he believes the SOP clearly defines their purpose and allows them to appropriately respond to situations.

"I think it will be refined as more cases come in," he said, adding that the cases they have received the last few weeks have been met with "very good" and "immediate" response by SARC members.

The committee is composed of a parent of a school-age child, representatives from PSS, the Coalition of Private Schools, the juvenile probation unit of the Division of Youth Services, the Child Protective Unit of the Division of Youth Services, and the Department of Public Safety.

Board members Lucy Blanco-Maratita said data could be developed to a point where the issue is "nipped in the bud" and students would not be referred to SARC at all.

Mocanu acknowledged that the CNMI generally suffers from a lack of data, and pointed to possibly establishing data points for individual cases in the future so that data can be accumulated and trends visualized.

The committee takes the "whole-child" approach, with the juvenile's socioeconomic background, home life, as well as school life considered, according to Mocanu.

"It's a meeting of mental health professionals, youth services, law enforcement, school counselors. Basically, it's one table with all the resources that the CNMI has available to any given student," Mocanu said.

Is there a need for respite care in the CNMI?

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Before respite care can be established and developed in the CNMI, a needs assessment survey needs to be conducted, according to Pamela C. Sablan, executive director of the CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities.

The needs assessment survey includes questions about tasks performed routinely by the caregiver for the target dependents; support and assistance from family, community organizations, or other agencies providing service to the residents; home environment; health condition of dependents; dependents' mood, judgment, and memory essential to the

caregiver; and resources such as other assistance, financial, and otherwise that would maintain living conditions.

"We are inviting all interested families and individuals who are in need of respite services to register with Ayuda Network and respond to the questionnaire," said Ayuda Network's Diana Camacho.

Camacho said that service providers, day care centers, and businesses that are interested in providing respite care services are also urged to call the Ayuda Network.

Outreach programs that include respite program presentations will also be provided on the following dates: Oct. 15 to Oct. 17 on Tinian, Oct. 18 to

Oct. 22 on Rota, and Oct. 23 to Oct. 24 on Saipan.

The respite care system provides assistance to those providing care outside of a facility, like primary care providers with target dependents, and provides them a temporary relief, who might otherwise need a permanent facility outside the home.

Target dependents are children with developmental disabilities residing at home, or adults with developmental disabilities who reside with aging parents, children and older individuals who are medically fragile, have developmental disabilities, dementia, and other conditions.

On Aug. 29, CDD board members selected the Ayuda

Network Inc. as the community based organization to oversee the Commonwealth Respite Service Program or CRSP.

The CDD board said that Ayuda Network has the expertise and background to be responsible for the CRSP on regulation, management, and supervision of the program.

CDD will be an advisory board to Ayuda Network on the CRSP.

Ayuda Network will handle the assessment survey.

For more information about CRSP contact Ayuda Network at 234-7495 or visit their office located in Chalan Kanoa Drive, next to Karidat Social Services. Office is open Monday through Friday from 7:30am to 4:30pm.

Chamber to host senatorial, delegate candidate forums

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Free business training on Rota on Wednesday
The CNMI Small Business Development Center will be offering a free business training seminar on Rota on Oct. 15, Wednesday, at Rota's Northern Marianas College (Room A-2) from 10am to 12pm. The seminar will be limited to a maximum of 30 persons so register now by calling 532-9478/51 or 664-3018. Business owners, prospective owners, or clients are encouraged to attend. *(SBDC)*

Navy, Marines training on Farallon de Medinilla
ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Navy and U.S. Marines will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla on Oct. 16 from 7pm to 11pm. The general public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—re advised to stay clear of the area during the times and dates indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. Farallon de Medinilla plays a special and unique role in national defense because its location provides frequent access that supports established training requirements. In addition, the air and sea space in the Farallon provides sufficient room for the many different attack profiles necessary to replicate training opportunities in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. *(PR)*

Outreach for women with bleeding disorders
On Oct. 16, Dr. Tiffany Lin, pediatric hematology (blood disorder) fellow at University

of California at San Francisco and pediatrician at the Commonwealth Health Center, and Pam Carhill, MPT of Marianas Health's Pacific Wellness Center, will be doing outreach and education on Von Willebrand's Disease at the Thursday Street Market. Lin and Carhill will be passing out educational materials and speaking individually with persons who think they may have a child with a bleeding disorder. Come down to the Street Market and we will give you the next steps to be further assessed at CHC. For any inquiries call 483-0162. *(PR)*

FOA membership meeting reset
The Friends of the Arts has postponed its membership meeting to Oct. 21, at the Canton Chinese Restaurant, across from the Mobil/McDonald's in Garapan. The meeting will include a delicious Chinese buffet and musical and thespian entertainment. *(PR)*

Library Association Fundraiser Oct. 17
The Commonwealth Association of Archives, Libraries and Museums is still selling tickets for its fundraising event on Oct. 17, 2014 at the Pacific Islands Club, 6pm to 9pm. Funds raised will go toward defraying the cost of attending the 24th annual Pacific Islands Association of Libraries, Archives and Museums Conference, on Nov. 10 - 15 in Koror, Palau. Participation in this event will allow CNMI librarians to collaborate and establish networks with colleagues throughout Micronesia. For tickets or questions regarding the fundraiser, contact Greg Sablan at 237-6798 or gregorio.

sablan@marianas.edu, Erlinda Naputi at 235-7322 or ecnaputi@gmail.com. *(PR)*

Free screening of new documentary
Voices of the Marianas will be screening a new documentary about the making of an improvisational play. Titled *What We Really Think*, the documentary is directed by Barbara Sher and features Marianas High School students as the cast and Galvin Deleon Guerrero as the videographer. The documentary will be shown at the American Memorial Park on Oct. 17, at 7pm. It's free and open to the public. *(PR)*

SDA School to host bowling tournament
The Saipan SDA School will be hosting its first Bowling Tournament on Oct. 19, 2014, at the Saipan Bowling Center at J's Restaurant. There will be cash prizes of \$120 for first place; \$100 for second place; and \$80 for third place. Registration starts at 1pm; games start at 1:30pm. Tickets cost \$15. Visit the Saipan SDA School website for more information or call 234-7326

Survivors, caregivers support group meeting on Oct. 16
All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the next Commonwealth Cancer Association monthly support meeting on Thursday, Oct. 16, 2014, starting at 5:30pm at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room. To RSVP or for more information, call the CCA at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com or cca@cca-marianas.org. *(CCA)*

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will host a candidate forum for the senatorial race on Oct. 15 and another forum for the U.S. delegate candidates on Oct. 16. Both events will take place at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

Tickets are available in advance at the Chamber office on the third floor of the Marianas Business Center for \$10 each. Tickets will be sold at the door on the day of the event for \$15 each. Attendees should arrive before 6pm as the doors will close promptly at 6:30. After the doors close, no one will be allowed to enter until intermission. There will be a 15-minute intermission in the middle of the forum.

These forums are conducted in the effort to help educate voters further on the issues of our islands by having the chance to hear differing opinions and solutions, and for those who wish to hear the various platforms of each candidate.

Each candidate will have a chance to answer questions submitted in advance by the general public. The response will be timed, and when each candidate has had the chance to speak, all candidates will then (in the same order) have a chance to make additional comments. Time limits will be enforced fairly and equally. No questions from the audience will be allowed at the event. Questions for the senatorial forum have already been collected. Questions for the U.S. delegate will be accepted through the end of business on Oct. 14. At the end of the event, each candidate will have the opportunity to make a closing statement.

In addition to these two forums, the Chamber will host a gubernatorial forum on Oct. 27, also at the Multi-Purpose Center. Questions for that forum will be accepted until Oct. 23.

Attendees are not allowed to carry banners, hold signs, or otherwise distract the speakers. Audience members may not display any promotional materials supporting any candidate, including but not limited to buttons, hats, T-shirts, etc. Other rules and procedures will be explained by the moderator at the start of the event. *(SCC)*

At 1.3M, Guam visitor arrivals break records

GUAM (Pacific News Center)—More than 1.3 million visitors came to Guam during fiscal year 2014, according to news release from the Governor's Office.

This was the second consecutive year the island recorded that number of visitors. Overall arrivals for fiscal year 2014 reached 1,341,054—an increase over the last fiscal year. Since January 2014 Guam has welcomed 1,013,054 visitors.

“What’s even more amaz-

ing is that in spite of the triple disaster in March 2011, Guam Visitors Bureau and their tourism partners were able to stave off what initially was an anticipated large drop in visitor arrivals,” Gov. Eddie Calvo is quoted in the release. “We had all these things happening and yet we were able to do more than just maintain our numbers, we built them up.”

Guam has also been diversifying its tourism markets. While Japan arrivals were slightly down, arrivals from Korea and

China increased by 20 percent and 89.1 percent respectively. Other markets that also saw growth in September include the U.S. mainland by 59.9 percent, Hawaii by 37.5 percent, Australia by 24 percent, and the Philippines by 3.9 percent.

Military activities have also had a positive impact on the tourism industry. Exercise Valiant Shield contributed to September's upward trend, with Armed Forces Air Arrivals increasing by 127.3 percent.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
TINIAN MUNICIPAL SCHOLARSHIP BOARD
Municipality of Tinian and Aguiñan
P.O. Box 520059, Tinian, MP 96952
Tel: (670) 433-2200 Fax: (670) 433-1819 / 6082
Email: tinianscholarship@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Municipal Scholarship Board hereby gives notice that there will be a Special Meeting on Thursday, October 16, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. at the Mayor's Conference Room, 1st floor, in San Jose Village, Tinian.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Adoption of Agenda

4. Adoption of Minutes of 09/29/2014

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS¹

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Action on Student Appeals for 2014 Fall Semester, Academic Year 2014-2015

2. Spring Semester 2015, Academic Year 2014-2015 Application Distribution Schedule

V. MISCELLANEOUS MATTER

VI. SCHEDULE OF NEXT BOARD MEETING

VII. ADJOURNMENT


/s/ JULIAN U. HOFSCHEIDER

Chairman

¹We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments on the day of the meeting.


² Pursuant to 1 CMC Section 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

³ Individuals with special needs requiring special accommodations, please contact the TMSB office at least 48 hours prior to scheduled meeting for assistance.



PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

Marpi Point Field Remedial Investigation



The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announces its intent to initiate a remedial investigation of former Marpi Point Field in October 2014 in accordance with the Defense Environmental Restoration Program for Formerly Used Defense Sites (DERP-FUDS). You are invited to attend a public meeting to learn about the DERP-FUDS environmental restoration process and the remedial investigation tasks to be performed at the site. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers representatives will be available during the meeting to answer your questions regarding elements of the remedial investigation.

Meeting Date: Tuesday, October 21, 2014

Meeting Time: 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Meeting Location: American Memorial Park Visitor Center Theater

For more information regarding the planned remedial investigation, please contact Helene Takemoto, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu District Project Manager at:

Department of the Army

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Honolulu District

Programs and Project Management Division

Environmental Branch

Building 252

Attn: CEPOH-PP-E (Helene Takemoto)

Fort Shafter, HI 96858-5440

Telephone: 808.835.4088

Fax: 808.835.4129

E-Mail: FUDS-POH@usace.army.mil



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Office of the Secretary of Public Works

2nd floor-Oleai Joeten Commercial Center
Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BIDS

DPW/FHWA-15-IFB-001

ISLAND WIDE ROAD MARKING AND SIGNAGE UPGRADE ROUTE 37(CHALAN MONSIGNOR MARTINEZ ROAD), ROUTE 321 (SANTA LOURDES ROAD), PROJECT NO. CM-NH-3000(016), SAIPAN

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the Island Wide Road Marking and Signage Upgrade Route 37 (Chalan Monsignor Martinez Road), Route 321 (Santa Lourdes Road) Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **October 7, 2014** at Department of Public Works, Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Highway Section.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

There will be a **Prebid Conference** for this project on **October 24, 2014** 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **October 29, 2014** to **Mr. Vicente C. Cabrera, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Vicente C. Cabrera, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW/FHWA-15-IFB-001"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time **November 10, 2014**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time **November 10, 2014**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **November 10, 2014** and must be received no later than **November 20, 2014**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, **November 21, 2014**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:30 a.m. local time, on November 10, 2014.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section §70-30-3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI; and

b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash

2) US Gov't Securities

3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange

4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and

5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **One Hundred Eighty (180) working days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed according to Table 108-1 of the standard Specification for Construction of Roads and Bridges on Federal Highway Projects, FP03

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/MARTIN C. SABLAN
Secretary of Public Works

/s/HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement and Supply

APASEEM puts out call for scientific presentations

The Asia Pacific Academy of Sciences, Science Education, and Environmental Management, or APASEEM, is putting forth a call for presentations for its upcoming annual meeting. APASEEM is also encouraging regional scientists, science teachers, and resource managers to contribute announcements via its website, at www.apaseem.org.

In keeping with tradition, APASEEM will be using the week before Thanksgiving for the presentations' conference. The date(s) scheduled are Tuesday, Nov. 18, and Wednesday, Nov. 19, and if needed, Thursday, Nov. 20. As in the past, the event will be held at the Ameri-

can Memorial Park Auditorium, which seats up to 112 people.

All interested science and environmental professionals—and teachers and students of these disciplines—are encouraged to develop a 15- to 20-minute presentation on an aspect of their recent work that may be of interest to the CNMI's science, science education, and environmental management community. A topical title and a brief abstract (one paragraph) of your talk will help better advertise the conference, so please send us these when able to. See past year's talks via our website.

We are also using this opportunity to continue our ongoing membership drive. We mostly

operate on annually due membership fees and contributions. If you've been thinking about becoming a dues-paying active member, or if your affiliation or agency is able to do so, please encourage this and join. A reminder—most of us remember to pay at or around the date of our annual conference and that fees for professional organizations are tax deductible. Remember, speakers get half off on annual fees if they've presented sometime during the previous year. Group rates are available for any organization, public or private—see website for fees and mailing address. Potential new members and/or potential group officers are

highly encouraged to make contact with us.

As background, our updated Academy's Synopsis document is included on our website.

Contact Michael Trianni (president) via mtrianni@ymail.com; Ken Kramer (vice president) via ken_kramer0886@yahoo.com; Andre Kozij (secretary) via akaspn@hotmail.com; John Furey (treasurer) via jfurey@saipan.com to get on this year's conference schedule. The organization also has a Gmail account for general correspondence but can also be used for getting scheduled to speak at this year's conference, apaseem@gmail.com. (**APASEEM**)

Disability employment training for employers

Gov. Eloy S. Inos proclaimed October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month on Oct. 3, 2014. As part of the NDEAM awareness activities, the planning committee has lined up a series of workshops/trainings this month to benefit employers by way of increasing their awareness and understanding of disability employment issues.

Training topics

NDEAM's key trainer/presenter, Philip L. Marlowe of the Guam-based Office of Federal Contracts Compliance Program of the U.S. Department of Labor, will cover the following topics (*Day 1 – all day*):

- Affirmative Action and Non-Discrimination Obligations of Contractors and Subcontractors Regarding Individuals with Disabilities

- Developmental Requirements for a Basic Affirmative Action Program/Plan: Service and Supply

- 16 Point Affirmative Action Requirements: Federal Construction Contractors/Changes to Section 503 and Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act

- DIR 506 – Criminal Records Use

Other training topics will include (*Day 2 – morning only*):

- Overview of the Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program by Jane M. Tudela/OVR

- Title I (Employment)/Reasonable Accommodations of the Americans with Disabilities Act by Thomas J. Camacho/CDD

- Assistive Technology + Employment = Accessible Workplace by Raymond D. Diaz/CDD-ATP

- Sensitivity Training by Thomas Thornburgh/NMPASI

- Workforce L.I.F.E. by Floyd Masga/NMC-UCEDD

Training Schedules

The one-and-a-half day training conference is scheduled as follows:

- Oct. 15 and 16: Tinian NMC Campus, Room D

- Oct. 21 and 22: Rota Mayor's Office

- Oct. 23 and 24: Kanoa Resort, Saipan

Marlowe's curriculum vitae

Marlowe represents the U.S. Department of Labor and for the last two years as compliance officer for the Office of Federal Contracts Compliance Programs for Guam and the CNMI. He has a master's degree in Business Management and is a graduate of the U.S. Department of Defense Equal Opportunity Institute and a former Equal Opportunity Officer for the U.S. Army. Additionally, Marlowe serves as adjunct faculty with the University of Phoenix School of Business Administration and previously with the University of Maryland, University College and Central Texas College Department of Criminal Justice.

Transportation service for Saipan

The Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority provides transportation service for a standard fee of \$5 per person per ride with a discounted price of \$3 per ride for persons with disabilities and the elderly age 55 and over. Schedule your ride in advance by calling COTA at 664-2690.

For more information about the training or to register, contact Josephine Tudela at the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation at 322-6537/8; TTY: (670) 322-6449; Fax: (670) 322-6536; email: nmidir@ovrgov.net; or P.O. Box 501521 Saipan, MP 96950. (**OVR**)



WINNING DESIGN

Mariel Reyes, an eighth grader at Dandan Middle School, recently drew the winning design for this year's Education Month theme, "Grab the wheels of education...steer your way to success." She is shown here with her family, DMS teachers and administrators, as well as Board of Education members and public school officials.

DENNIS B. CHAN

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

October 14, 2011

New naval muscle for the Philippines

As Saipan watches the west Pacific military situation evolving all around us, here's a story that will interest many residents: Over the past few weeks the Philippine navy has scored at least one, and maybe even two, additions to its fleet. The first one is a former U.S. Coast Guard Hamilton-class cutter. The second I'll chalk as a "maybe" given that only a couple of blogs are reporting the story, namely that South Korea is donating a Pohang-class corvette to the Philippines. So, avast ye' mates, let's do some armchair

sailing and take a look at this. This comes along at a good time for the Republic of the Philippines, which has a whole lot of coast to patrol to begin with, and which is now facing increasingly contested waters. Yet the R.P. doesn't have a lot of money to throw at the situation. Depending on whose numbers you believe, they spend around \$1.8 billion annually on defense. To put that in perspective, that's roughly the cost of just one new U.S. destroyer at the cheap end of things, and as for the not-cheap end of things, don't even ask. More context: \$1.8 billion is less than half of what neighboring Malaysia spends on defense, and it's about one-third of

what Thailand spends

NMC honor society inducts 12 new members

The Northern Marianas College Beta Lambda Psi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society celebrated the induction of 12 new members into the Society on Saturday, Oct. 1. Family, friends, NMC president Sharon Hart, ASNMC senator Eldred Sanchez, faculty, and PTK members joined in the festivities at the Pacific Islands Club Charley's Cabaret to honor the new inductees. In order to qualify for membership in Phi Theta Kappa, students must distinguish themselves by maintaining a 3.5 cumulative grade point average, in addition to serving and contributing to the Commonwealth through various community service and leadership activities. The 13 newest full members in-

clude students from the business, hospitality management, education, and liberal arts majors: Keolester Buenapacifico, Lawrence Camacho, Antonette Castro, Garrairie Cepeda, Kristine Dequito, Maria Hernandez, Lauren Jardinero, Derek Leung, Louie Nigh, Jerome Ocampo, and Davilyn Santos. Also welcomed into the chapter was one new provisional member, Shane Golingo. The induction ceremony was carried out by the current PTK officers: president Elowena Camacho, Vice President Dyenina Diaz, recording secretary Beatrice Mesngon, membership secretary Robert Deleon Guerrero, treasurer Joserin Mendiola, and faculty adviser Larry Lee.

October 14, 2002

Tinian bans fishing with scuba tanks

The use of scuba tanks when

fishing within the lagoon and coastal waters of Tinian and Aguiñan is now a prohibited activity. This comes soon after Gov. Juan N. Babauta signed into law a local bill that prohibits the use of scuba tanks and such related devices among commercial and non-commercial fishermen when fishing for reef fish and harvesting other marine life within the lagoon and coastal waters of the two islands. The measure, Senate Local Bill 13-4, goes into the books as Tinian Local Law 13-1. The measure was first passed by the Tinian Legislative Delegation on August 13. All four Tinian lawmakers—Senate Vice President Jose Dela Cruz, Senate Floor Leader Joaquin G. Adriano, Sen. David M. Cing, and Rep. Norman S. Palacios—voted to adopt the measure. The Tinian lawmakers said the use of scuba tanks and other diving equipment by commercial and non-commercial

fishermen have caused a significant depletion of reef fish within the lagoon and coastal waters of the island.

Saipan mayor gets \$37K

The Office of the Mayor of Saipan got another booster shot for its operational needs with the passage of a new law that grants it \$37,323 from the cockfight, bingo, and batu gaming collections. This comes soon after Gov. Juan N. Babauta signed into law House Local Bill 13-30, which sets aside the amount to be used by Mayor Juan B. Tudela's office for its operational expenditures. The bill is now Saipan Local Law 13-9. It was authored by House Floor Leader Jesus T. Attao and was introduced on February 13. It was transmitted to the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation for action on June 14 and was passed on first and final reading on August 26.

Russian FAM tour visits Saipan, Tinian, Rota

The Marianas Visitors Authority and Asiana Airlines recently hosted a familiarization tour of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota for 20 tour agents and media representatives from Russia.

The five-day tour from Sept. 22 to 29 allowed participants from the Far East Russia cities of Vladivostok, Khabarovsk, and Sakhalin to become better acquainted with visitor attractions and amenities in this beach resort destination renowned for its natural beauty.

"Our challenge in fiscal year 2015 is that direct charter flights from Russia have been suspended indefinitely because of Russia-side airline woes," said MVA market-

ing manager Bruce Bateman. "However, there is still strong demand for our destination in Far East Russia, and we are still receiving Russian visitors through connecting flights

in Seoul. This FAM tour will enable these Russian agents to develop three-island tour packages with support from Asiana Airlines."

While on Saipan, the tour

group took an island tour and an ATV tour and a special tour of the Grotto with Marianas Trekking. They also conducted several hotel inspections and took in a sunset dinner

cruise, the SandCastle Saipan dinner show, and a lunch and tour of Managaha. The group also took detailed island tours and hotel tours on Tinian and Rota. (MVA)

Russia tour agents and media reps visit Bird Island Lookout on Saipan during their FAM tour of the Northern Mariana Islands on Sept. 22-29, 2014.

MVA

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



Happy, happy birthday to Anabelle Sanchez, who celebrates her birthday today! Hoping you'll have a fabulous and great one with many, many more birthdays to come! Hoping all your birthday wishes and dreams come true! Much love always coming out from your family and friends, all your students, your SVS familia, and most especially from your Flaquitas!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday greetings go out to Pris Cabrera, who celebrates her birthday today! May you have a wonderful and awesome day, and congratulations and best wishes to you and Vince on your wedding day this weekend. We celebrate you today, and we celebrate the both of you on Saturday! Woohoo! Much love coming out from all your family and friends!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday greetings going out to the biggest Batman and comic book fan in the entire CNMI, Shawn Fleming! May you have an awesome one! Now go out there and save the day! Coming out from your friends and your entire family!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Russia tour agents and media reps visit "The Friendly Island" of Rota during their FAM tour of the Northern Mariana Islands on Sept. 22-29, 2014.

MVA



Russia tour agents and media reps visit I'Chenchon Bird Sanctuary on Rota during their FAM tour of the Northern Mariana Islands on Sept. 22-29, 2014.

MVA

Russia tour agents and media reps fly to Tinian during their FAM tour of the Northern Mariana Islands on Sept. 22-29, 2014.

MVA

Opinion

Hafa Adail

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Upside down at the gas pump

Global crude oil prices have been falling in recent weeks, bringing relief to motorists at the pump—and angst to members of OPEC.

The oil cartel still controls most of the world's oil reserves. But it lacks the market power it once wielded. The days are over when an Arab oil embargo could cripple the U.S. economy, as happened during the mid-1970s. An era of abundance has dawned, thanks largely to North American shale-oil and tar-sands producers.

Some traders and analysts expect a global surplus of oil in coming years, as well as a boom in the production of natural gas. Given robust supplies, oil prices are likely to stay relatively low, financial markets indicate. Those lower prices are just what the economy needs to stimulate job creation, business investment and an overdue rise in middle-class living standards.

President Barack Obama should be doing more to boost the U.S. petroleum sector. His administration puts great effort and taxpayer funding into so-called green energy, but many Obama-backed subsidies for wind, solar, ethanol and other renewables haven't paid off. The administration also needs to get out of the way of useful private-sector energy projects, the most obvious being the Keystone XL pipeline. That new supply route is needed for the safe transportation of Canadian oil to American refineries in the Gulf of Mexico. Approve it, already.

Still, to an increasing extent in recent years, the federal government has given grudging support to domestic oil's comeback. The administration has loosened restrictions on drilling permits, for instance, and opened up more federal lands and offshore sites for drilling. Contrary to the wishes of liberal environmentalists, the administration hasn't tried to put a stop to fracking—the transformative drilling technology that enables producers to tap previously out-of-reach reserves.

During his State of the Union speech in January, the president noted that America had produced more oil at home than it bought from the rest of the world—"the first time that's happened in 20 years," Obama marveled. A president who came into office promising to reduce the nation's dependence on oil in favor of renewables now embraces what he calls an "all-of-the-above" energy strategy.

Apparently, "Drill, baby, drill," wasn't such a bad idea after all.

As a result, the American public has less to fear from OPEC. The cartel and its kingpin—Saudi Arabia—still could roil the market if its ministers decide to sharply cut output when they meet next month. But that's unlikely: OPEC has good reason to act with restraint.

Cutting production would encourage competing suppliers to produce more, and give a boost to the conservation efforts that are gathering steam not only in the developed world but in China as well (where the ruling Communist Party is under pressure to curb air pollution).

We doubt OPEC will overplay its hand. There are other risks: Oil prices could shoot up again if fighting in the Middle East spills into the important oil fields of southern Iraq, for example. Nevertheless, energy markets, including long-dated futures contracts for 2017 and beyond, indicate moderate prices ahead. Who's afraid of big, bad OPEC now?

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How Muslims can halt extremism

By JUNAID M. AFEEF
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Very little was done in the organized Muslim community in northern Illinois after the FBI arrested Adel Daoud in September 2012. As his criminal case returns to the headlines because of his trial being postponed from next month until next summer, more local Muslim youth continue to make headlines for their thwarted efforts to join terrorist operations abroad. One local newspaper ran a frightening front-page headline "ISIS in Chicago."

I am more concerned about the future of Muslims in America than I have ever been before. What will it take to wake up the Muslim leadership of our mosques to the reality that our young people are vulnerable to extremist ideologies? What will it take for our community leaders to take control of this nightmare?

I have served in various leadership roles in the organized Muslim communities for 20 years, and I know the lay of the land as far as mosques and their leaders are concerned. I remain in the leadership communication network where community leaders debate issues impacting Muslims locally and abroad, and I served as the executive director of the Council of Islamic Organizations of Greater Chicago several years ago. Based on my experience and my insight into the Muslim community locally, I am deeply concerned that this urgent issue will continue to be ignored.

We Muslims—and particularly our mosque leaders—need to be self-critical. It is a part of our Islamic ethos to stand for justice even when that means taking a stand against ourselves. That is the challenge we are faced with right now.

In our community there are young people who are lost and confused. They see the carnage in Gaza and in Syria, and they see the suffering of Muslims in Burma. These are but a few of the places where Muslims abroad are being persecuted, and they feel that the West does not care.

All they hear is hollow rhetoric about America's commitment to democracy, and it is indeed hollow rhetoric because these young people see America's alliance with the repressive and repulsive regimes in Saudi Arabia and Egypt. In the face of these stresses, and without any effort to meaningfully address them in our mosques, and without an alternate plan of action to address these injustices, it is no surprise to me that some members of the Muslim community are being radicalized.

Our government has proposed plans for countering violent extremism at home. The programs call for collaboration between law enforcement, federal prosecutors and the communities where there are fears of radicalization. These are empty words unless more is done and done right. So far very little has been done, and what has been done to date seems flawed.

We know that the New York City model of spying on Muslims is counterproductive. (It makes those of us in the majority who advocate for using the system to address our concerns look naive.) There has to be a genuine partnership between law enforcement and the Muslim community. This can only happen if law enforcement is committed to diverting those who are at risk of radicalization as the first option.

Just as we have crisis-intervention protocols for law enforcement to deal with individuals with mental-health issues, we need similar protocols for individuals identified as being at risk for radicalization.

If the end goal is only criminal prosecution, then it will be very hard to bring the Muslim community onboard.

Law enforcement needs partners in the community. The traditional leadership infrastructure of mosques cannot play this role. Muslims who know the community, who have established credentials as community leaders, who can appreciate the constitutional implications of law enforcement working within a faith community to investigate and thwart violent criminal activity, and who are concerned about losing our children to radicalization and about the public safety risks that creates must organize and be resources for law enforcement and the Muslim community.

Internally, Muslims need to put our beliefs into action, and we need to address our shortcomings. I have said this before and received a lot of criticism for saying it: We need to shut down the anti-Americanism in our community. We are all in this together. There is no conflict between a devout Muslim life and American democracy. It is the freedom we have here that allows us to live as we do. We must broaden our concerns to include the suffering that Muslims cause to others.

Whether it is Boko Haram, the Islamic State, al-Qaida or apostasy laws in Muslim majority nations, we must preach against these groups and against these ideas. The message must come from positions of authority within our community. The conspiracy theories floating around the Muslim community to explain away the evil done by other Muslims must stop. They are contributing to the radicalization problem. Not every evil act committed by a Muslim abroad is a false flag operation by Mossad or the CIA.

Muslims need to commit to the common good with other like-minded Americans. This includes supporting the men and women in our military, supporting policies that promote national security, and using our voices and our resources to find solutions for domestic maladies even when they may not directly impact the Muslim community.

Muslims in America cannot be a special-interest group. We must be a contributor to the conscience of our nation.

Junaid M. Afeef is the former executive director of the Council of Islamic Organizations of Greater Chicago. He wrote this for the Chicago Tribune.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Will your doctor recognize Ebola?

By **RAYMOND POLLAK**
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The failure of staff at Dallas' Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital to follow proper protocol when a Liberian visitor presented himself to the emergency room with a febrile illness will stand as one of the more significant errors in the recent history of medicine in this country.

Though there were many contributing factors to the delay in his diagnosis of Ebola virus disease, the most significant is that medical students and residents in the United States learn little about tropical diseases.

Such lapses are neither necessary nor inevitable.

In January of 1975, I arrived in Walvis Bay, Namibia—a quaint oceanside town located in what was then known as South West Africa—as a conscript to the South African Army Medical Corps. I had just completed a yearlong internship in internal medicine and surgery, after graduating from the University of the Witwatersrand's rigorous six-year program, which included the subject of tropical medicine in the fifth year.

I barely had time to acclimate to my new environs when I was ushered into the sick bay and asked by the charge nurse to consult on a 19-year-old conscript infantryman. I was informed that the young man had been admitted five days earlier after being examined and treated for a fever by the local town family practitioner. The fever was unremitting, despite a number of antibiotic prescriptions, and the patient's clinical condition appeared to deteriorating.

In reviewing the history, I asked the nurse and patient about any recent travel outside of the army base and was greeted with stony silence. After some insistence on my part that I could not evaluate and treat the soldier without the information, I was told in hushed words that "he had been up north at the border with Angola." The South African military at the time was engaged in a clandestine border conflict with insurgents from the South West African People's Organization and with Cuban forces as part of the Cold War, covertly backed by Washington.

The travel details combined with the examination suggested to me that the soldier was suffering from a tropical disease for which the antibiotics the soldier had been prescribed would be of little benefit. I obtained a sample of his blood to send for laboratory analysis and prepared to perform my own blood smear analysis, as I had been trained to do in these clinical circumstances.

"But," said the charge nurse in her native Afrikaans, "who is going to read the slide—there is no one in the laboratory trained for this purpose."

I replied that I would read the slide, confident that I would be able to do so. The stained slide was returned to the sick bay within hours, and I was able to discern under the microscope the sinuous trophozoites of *Trypanosoma Rhodesiense*—the causative parasite of "sleeping sickness," which is transmitted by the bite of a tsetse fly.

Clearly, the soldier, by dint of his deployment to an endemic area of known tsetse fly infestation, had acquired the parasitic illness after being bitten. Later that day, the stricken young man was air evacuated to Pretoria for definitive treatment of his illness. I was sworn to secrecy for the duration of my military service lest there be panic and fear among the conscripts and their parents of the dangers the troops were facing by being "up north."

I was reminded of my experience by the events surrounding the diagnosis and treatment of the first patient with the Ebola virus to reach the United States. It was a difficult day for the practice of medicine in this country, made worse by having to watch on television the mea culpas of the officials representing the hospital. I observed with sadness their excuses as they tried to exculpate those responsible for the initial evaluation and treatment of the stricken Liberian, who died Wednesday.

It seemed disingenuous to me for the hospital officials to blame the electronic medical record—a system supposedly designed to obviate communication errors in the health care setting—or an anonymous, hapless triage nurse who evidently had properly performed her duties.

In addition, the revelation that the patient had also been prescribed ineffective antibiotics for a presumed viral illness is odd, given proscriptions against this practice by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

How is it possible, I wondered, that with our expensive and much vaunted health care system, such a failure could occur?

I remembered that in my own training all those years ago, we were taught that for any individual with a fever and recent travel history to the tropics/subtropics/known endemic disease area, the patient is presumed to have a tropical disease (malaria, yellow fever, Ebola, etc.) until proved otherwise. Keeping the patient in the hospital until a tropical disease is excluded is a necessary requirement for the successful diagnosis and management of these often morbidly ill patients.

But then, since medical students and graduate resident physicians

in the United States receive little if any training in tropical medicine and hygiene, why should I expect that they would be competent in this field of medicine?

Yet, there is the tacit—perhaps misinformed—presumption by the public and the media that health care personnel here are being prepared to deal with an increasingly globalized world in which these formally "exotic" but potentially fatal tropical diseases are likely to reach our shores.

The reality is that the traditional, intensive four-year graduate medical school curriculum in this country has little time for the inclusion of the subject of tropical medicine. Neither are physicians in graduate residency programs schooled in tropical medicine, unless they are among the few who pursue a fellowship in infectious disease.

The recent enactment of the Affordable Care Act similarly did little to correct this deficiency. Rather, in response to the projected shortage of primary care physicians in particular, some medical schools have proposed even shorter three-year curricula to mint new physicians to meet the demands of a burgeoning pool of needy and now recently insured patients.

The combined eight years of schooling required of graduating physicians in the United States actually produces an inferior product at enormous cost. Indeed, figures published in October 2013 by the Association of American Medical Colleges demonstrate that 86 percent of physician graduates are in debt, with mean medical school debt burden estimated at \$170,000.

One solution—already being implemented at a number of universities—is to create six- or seven-year medical programs that transcend the four preliminary years of a liberal curriculum, integrating basic core subjects in the humanities with an intense medical training. This innovation would allow students the time necessary to gain broad competency—not, as in the present system, the ability to opt out of tropical disease nor any other clinically relevant subjects.

The result would likely be the production of a greater number of more highly skilled general practitioners, who could more easily meet the needs of a growing insured population at lower cost, and whose skills would be more appropriate to the challenges of a globalized economy. It would also reassure an apprehensive public that the debacle in Dallas is unlikely to be repeated.

Dr. Raymond Pollak is a former professor of surgery and the CEO of the Chicago-area-based Hippocrates Consulting LLC. He wrote this for the Chicago Tribune.

Why Jennifer Lawrence is so wrong about her stolen nude photos

By **ROBIN ABCARIAN**
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Was actress Jennifer Lawrence sexually violated when someone stole her nude photographs and posted them on Internet sites a few months ago?

She seems to think so.

"It is not a scandal," she told *Vanity Fair* contributing editor Sam Kashner in the magazine's November issue. "It is a sex crime. It is a sexual violation. It's disgusting. The law needs to be changed and we need to change."

No doubt, Lawrence and other actresses whose privacy was similarly violated were victims, and the FBI is reportedly investigating the theft of photos and videos.

Technically, what happened is not a sex crime. But it definitely was a crime. The question is, which existing law was violated?

The *Washington Post* offers several possibilities, noting that the man who hacked photos of Mila Kunis and Scarlett Johansson was fined \$66,179 and sentenced to 10 years in prison in 2012 for violating wiretapping laws. That seems pretty just to me.

I read and reread *Vanity Fair*'s interview with Lawrence, trying to decide if I agreed with her. Her outrage is palpable, and understandable.

But it's hard to take her seriously as the face of criminal justice reform when she says things like this: "Anybody who looked at those pictures, you're perpetrating a sexual offense. You should cower with shame. Even people who I know and love say, 'Oh, yeah, I looked at the pictures.' I don't want to get mad, but at the same time I'm thinking, I didn't tell you that you could look at my naked body."

People who I know and love?

I don't want to get mad?

Why would you not want to get mad at people you know and love, and who, by your own definition, have sexually violated you?

Because, I would submit, looking at stolen nude photos is not the heinous crime everyone is pretending it to be. The fact that Lawrence's own friends and loved ones are looking at the images perversely proves my point.

I would never discount Lawrence's feelings of exploitation and violation, but I dare say, she is a complicit member of the very generation that has normalized digital nakedness. She was not victimized by paparazzi aiming a long lens at her bedroom or into her vacation villa.

She shot a selfie and pressed "send."

I'm not the first to point out that we are in a great social co-

nundrum here. We are both obsessed with digital privacy and obsessed with digital exposure. Those two impulses are always and inevitably on a collision course. But I just don't think this is a case where the law has failed to catch up with technology.

I think this is a case of misplacing our faith in technology itself. Call me callous, but I think that anyone who stores naked photos on cloud servers, or sends them to another person, has in a very real sense forfeited control of the images.

"Either your boyfriend is going to look at porn or he's going to look at you," Lawrence told *Vanity Fair*.

And so, in this complicated age, is everyone else.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Another look at Carmelita's case

These two lovers tangled up in their love-hate relationship remind me of two mischievous students. At the beginning, I would restrain them from each other. Then I would send both of them to cool off. That is all! These two would have warmed up toward each other over time. They would even have gotten back together again—lovers' disputes do not last long! It is such a banal fact of life.

If harshness was needed, I would assign her a few months' probation. I am sure, she would have re-evaluated her actions and it would have been the most effective self-lesson for her. One more time, it is more likely that they would have gotten together again! As I heard, the male victim was asking the judge again and again that she be forgiven.

But what I learned was 20 years of prison for her without right to ask for any kind of relief! She got her own life, her family's life, her children's lives totally destroyed. Her five children have gotten scattered in different continents. Now, she is being held in prison, she is eating at the expense of taxpayers' money instead of earning

her own money and paying her taxes. Come on, dear citizens, it is out of any proportion! Do we really want it?

OK, what has been done is done. Let us look at the future! It is never too late to hope for justice. First of all, the case could be reopened and reviewed at any time due to previously unknown factors or understudied circumstances. The parties in the process and the honorable judge have the power to initiate a reopening of the case.

Secondly, our governor could exercise his exclusive right and pardon her, taking into account the family's interests and the fact that she has learned her lessons the hard way and she will never go into uncontrolled emotional outbursts again. Having served years, months and days has taught her how sweet is to be out of the walls and how important is being in control of one's self no matter what is happening around.






Diego Pua

Tanapag, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				
Mostly sunny with isolated showers. South winds around 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. South winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thundershowers	▲85 ▼77
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲82 ▼78
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲84 ▼79
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲82 ▼79
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲85 ▼77
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲85 ▼77
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲83 ▼81

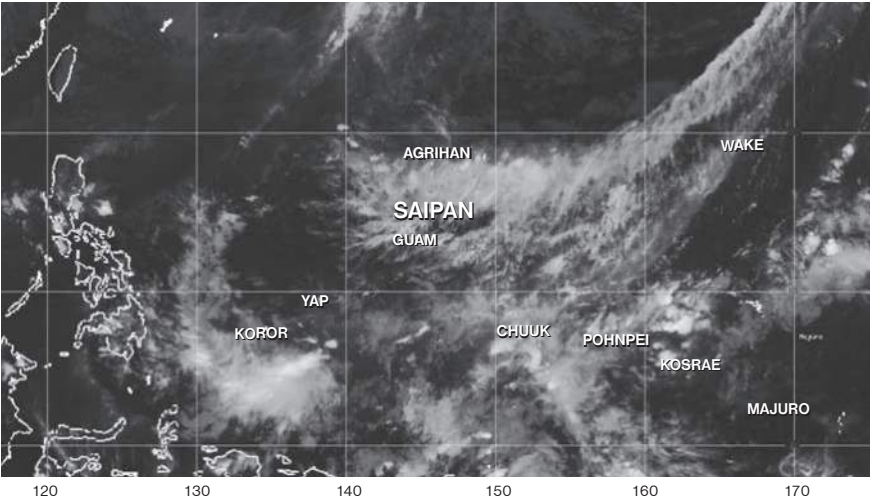
Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲66 ▼50
Beijing	Sunny	▲68 ▼43
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲82 ▼70
Honolulu	Showers	▲84 ▼76
London	Cloudy	▲59 ▼49
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲89 ▼63
Manila	Thundershowers	▲87 ▼76
Melbourne	Showers	▲60 ▼45
Miami	Thundershowers	▲85 ▼78
New York	Cloudy	▲66 ▼62
Osaka	Showers	▲66 ▼51
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲67 ▼53
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲66 ▼54
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲82 ▼67
Salem	Mostly Sunny	▲76 ▼54
San Francisco	Mostly Cloudy	▲80 ▼57
Seoul	Sunny	▲66 ▼46
Tokyo	Showers	▲75 ▼57
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲80 ▼69

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
6:43 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet
1:51 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
7:31 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
11:59 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2014
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A frontal boundary extends southwestward from northeast of Wake Island through 25N170E to a low pressure system centered south of Minami Tori Shima at 17N155E then curves northwestward to beyond 25N at 139E. Cloudiness and widespread rain are seen along and up to 200 miles northwest of this boundary between 170E and 160E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found along and up to 250 miles north of this boundary between 160E and 144E including the northern CNMI. A surface trough reaches southeastward from the Central Philippines through 14N130E and a broad circulation centered southeast of Yap at 6N141E to end at EQ144E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring near these features over Palau within 180 miles of a line from 3N139E to 8N132E to 15N133E. An upper-level trough meanders northeastward from EQ154E through a low centered northwest of Pohnpei at 9N156E to another low centered southwest of Wake Island at 16N164E. These elements are coupling with modest convergent surface winds to trigger scattered showers and a few thunderstorms between Weno and Pohnpei islands within 155 miles of a line from EQ159E to 9N153E and also southwest of Chuuk between the equator and 3N from 145E to 151E. Isolated thunderstorms are present near Pohnpei island between 6N and 10N from 157E to 163E. A low-level circulation is centered north-northeast of Majuro near 12N174E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms associated with this system are evident within 105 miles of a line from 9N171E to 16N176E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:08 AM	5:58 PM
Wednesday	6:09 AM	5:57 PM
Thursday	6:09 AM	5:56 PM
Friday	6:09 AM	5:56 PM
Saturday	6:09 AM	5:55 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	10:54 PM	11:11 AM
Wednesday	11:44 PM	11:59 AM
Thursday		12:44 PM
Friday	12:33 AM	1:27 PM
Saturday	1:21 AM	2:08 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
 - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
 - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
 - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
 - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
 - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 - COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
■ **CAMPUS BULLETIN** Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- For pictures:**
- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
 - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
 - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
 - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.
■ Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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 - Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 9, 2014

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) UA5070 4:15am 5:05am Daily UA5068 8:00am 8:50am 3 UA5068 8:40am 9:30am 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 UA5039 2:30pm 4:10pm 6, 7 via Rota UA5078 3:20pm 4:10pm 1, 5 UA5038 3:20pm 4:10pm 2, 4 UA5040 7:05pm 7:55pm 1, 5 UA5078 8:35pm 9:25pm 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 UA5044 10:50pm 11:40pm 1, 5	GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN UA5069 2:45am 3:35am Daily UA5071 6:40am 7:30am 3 UA5071 7:15am 8:05am 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 UA5039 1:10pm 2:00pm 6, 7 UA5038 1:10pm 2:50pm 2, 4 via Rota UA5077 2:00pm 2:50pm 1, 5 UA5041 5:45pm 6:35pm 1, 5 UA5077 7:15pm 8:05pm 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 UA5043 9:30pm 10:20pm 1, 5
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP) UA5039 2:30pm 3:05pm 6, 7	GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP) UA5038 1:10pm 1:45pm 2, 4
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM) UA5039 3:35pm 4:10pm 6, 7	ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN UA5038 2:15pm 2:50pm 2, 4
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR) DL287 6:05am 11:30pm 2, 6 via NRT	PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN DL298 4:30am 3:05pm 3, 7 via NRT
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) DL287 6:05am 8:40am Daily DL297 4:20pm 7:20pm Daily	NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN DL298 10:25am 3:05pm Daily DL288 8:55pm 1:30am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) OZ606 2:20am 6:00am 1 OZ606 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 7C 3401 2:20pm 6:30pm 5, 7 OZ604 3:30pm 6:55pm Daily 7C 3401 4:00pm 7:45pm 1, 2, 3, 4, 6	SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN 7C 3402 8:00am 1:25pm 5, 7 OZ603 8:50am 2:20pm Daily 7C 3402 9:30am 2:55pm 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 OZ605 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 OZ605 8:15pm 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) 3U8648 6:10am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7	SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN 3U8647 10:40pm 5:00am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK) MU764A 4:00am 8:00am 4, 7 MU764 4:00am 8:00am 1, 5	BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN MU763A 6:50pm 2:30am+1 3, 6 MU763 7:20pm 3:00am+1 4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) 3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6	GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN 3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) OZ606/701 2:20am 11:05am 1 via ICN OZ606/701 2:50am 11:05am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN UA5069/PR11 2:45am 4:50pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM UA5070/191 4:15am 8:55am 3, 6, 7 via GUM UA5070/183 4:15am 8:45pm 2, 5 via GUM UA5070/183 4:15am 9:10pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM DL287/473 6:05am 10:20pm Daily via NRT UA5071/PR11 6:40am 4:50pm 3 via GUM UA5071/PR11 7:15am 4:50pm 1, 5, 6, 7 via GUM UA5068/183 8:00am 9:10pm 3 via GUM UA5068/183 8:40am 8:45pm 2, 5 via GUM UA5068/183 8:40am 9:10pm 1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM UA5039/183 2:30pm 9:10pm 6, 7 via Rota-GUM UA5038/183 3:20pm 8:45pm 2 via GUM UA5078/183 3:20pm 8:45pm 5 via GUM UA5078/183 3:20pm 9:10pm 1 via GUM UA5038/183 3:20pm 9:10pm 4 via GUM OZ604/703 3:30pm 10:45pm 2, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN OZ704/603 12:10am 2:20pm Daily via ICN PR110/UA5041 7:35am 6:35pm 1, 5 via GUM PR110/UA5077 7:35am 8:05pm 3, 6, 7 via GUM PR110/UA5043 7:35am 10:20pm 1, 5 via GUM DL172/288 7:55am 1:30am+1 Daily via NRT UA190/5077 9:55am 8:05pm 3, 6, 7 via GUM OZ702/605 12:15pm 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN UA184/5071 10:25pm 7:30am+1 3 via GUM UA184/5071 10:25pm 8:05am+1 1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM UA184/5039 10:25pm 2:00pm+1 6, 7 via GUM UA184/5038 10:25pm 2:50pm+1 4 via GUM-Rota UA184/5077 10:25pm 2:50pm+1 1 via GUM UA184/5041 10:25pm 6:35pm+1 1 via GUM UA184/5077 10:25pm 8:05pm+1 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM UA184/5043 10:25pm 10:20pm+1 1 via GUM UA184/5071 11:30pm 8:05am+1 2, 5 via GUM UA184/5038 11:30pm 2:50pm+1 2 via GUM-Rota UA184/5077 11:30pm 2:50pm+1 5 via GUM UA184/5041 11:30pm 6:35pm+1 5 via GUM UA184/5077 11:30pm 8:05pm+1 2 via GUM UA184/5043 11:30pm 10:20pm+1 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) OZ606/721 2:20am 11:50am 1 via ICN OZ606/723 2:20am 12:50pm 1 via ICN OZ606/721 2:50am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN OZ606/723 2:50am 12:50pm 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA5070/179 4:15am 9:55pm 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM UA5068/179 8:00am 9:55pm 3 via GUM UA5068/179 8:40am 9:55pm 1, 5, 6 via GUM UA5039/179 2:30pm 9:55pm 6 via Rota-GUM UA5078/179 3:20pm 9:55pm 1, 5 via GUM OZ604/749 3:30pm 11:00pm 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN OZ604/749 3:30pm 11:40pm 7 via ICN	HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN OZ746/603 12:40am 2:20pm Daily via ICN OZ750/603 1:40am 2:20pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN OZ722/605 1:10pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ722/605 1:10pm 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 6 via ICN OZ724/605 1:50pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ724/605 1:50pm 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN UA180/5071 9:55pm 7:30am+1 3 via GUM UA180/5071 9:55pm 8:05am+1 1, 5, 6 via GUM UA180/5039 9:55pm 2:00pm+1 6 via GUM UA180/5077 9:55pm 2:50pm+1 1, 5 via GUM-Rota UA180/5041 9:55pm 6:35pm+1 1, 5 via GUM UA180/5077 9:55pm 8:05pm+1 3, 6 via GUM UA180/5043 9:55pm 10:20pm+1 1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN			9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
7:00AM	7:15AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily			
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily			
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily			
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily			
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily			
SAIPAN TO ROTA					
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY			
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat			
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat			
SAIPAN TO TINIAN					
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY			
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily			
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily			
ROTA TO SAIPAN					
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY			
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat			
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat			



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- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Business

Report: Developing nations beat US on optimism

By OREN DORELL
USA TODAY

People in Asia, Africa, Latin America and even the Middle East are more optimistic about their children's future than Americans or Europeans, ac-

ording to a new study.

"Asians are particularly optimistic about the next generation's financial prospects," according to the Pew Research Center's report "Emerging and Developing Economies Much More Optimistic Than Rich

Countries About the Future," released Thursday.

Ninety-four percent of Vietnamese, 85 percent of Chinese, 71 percent of Bangladeshis and 67 percent of Indians think today's children will be better off than their parents, according to the report. Africans and Latin Americans are also mostly optimistic.

Middle Easterners tend to believe their children will be worse off (41 percent vs. 35 percent who think they'll be better off), but they're not as pessimistic as Europeans and Americans, where "pessimism is pervasive," according to the report.

Sixty-five percent of Europeans and Americans believe today's children will have worse standards of living as adults than their parents. The malaise is even worse in Japan, where 79 percent say young people will be worse off than their parents, and 63 percent believe their economy is not doing well.

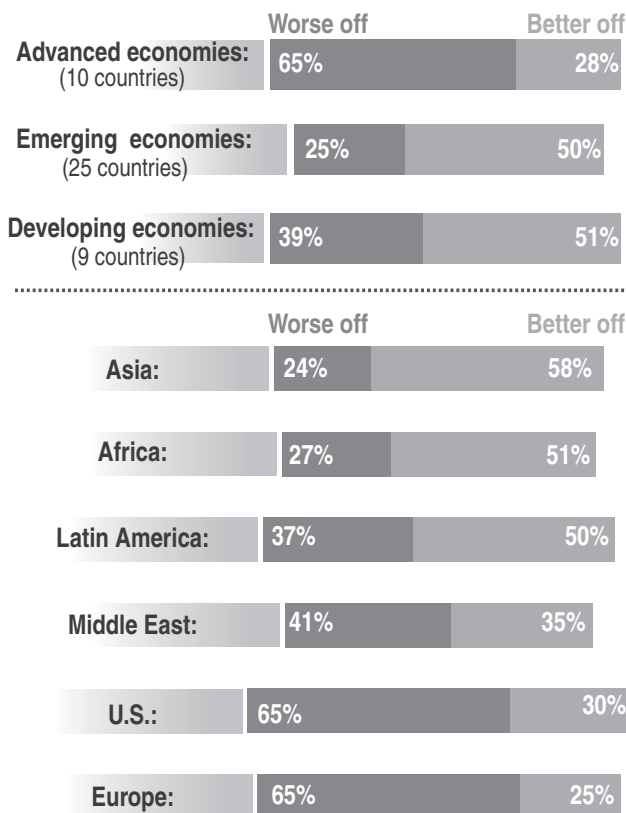
The survey, based on 48,643 interviews in 44 countries, found attitudes about the future tend to be in line with countries' economic performance in the recent past.

The Pew report is consistent with a report by the International Monetary Fund that came out Tuesday. That report projected tepid 1.8 percent growth in advanced economies and described the European economy as suffering from "lingering fragilities." Emerging markets will account for "the lion's share"

Optimism for the future?

A Pew Research poll collects opinions on future populations' financial stability, throughout the world.

When children in our country grow up, will they be _____ financially than their parents?



Source: Pew Research
Graphic: Erik Rodriguez

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advice to young people was different, however, in countries such as Egypt, Lebanon and El Salvador, which have experienced civil strife.

In Egypt, satisfaction with the country's direction and economy "has taken a big hit" since the turmoil that began with the Arab Spring revolution of early 2011, Simmons said.

Satisfaction in Egypt dropped from 65 percent right after the revolution to 24 percent this year, Simmons said.

People all over the world, in rich countries and developing ones, view a gap between rich and poor as a big or very big problem, the report said.

Although incomes in the USA are down 8 percent since the financial crisis in 2007, and growth has flattened in advanced economies, standards of living in the world's richest nations is still better than elsewhere, says economist Chris Christopher, director of consumer economics at consultancy IHS Global Insight.

The average yearly income is \$6,807 per person in China, and \$1,499 in India, while in the USA average income is \$53,143, according to the World Bank.

"On a per capita basis, everyday life, someone in the USA is fundamentally better off than someone in China, but the growth in their income is not going in the right direction," Christopher said. Positive change "makes people feel a lot better about their opportunity."

How to deal with an overtly hostile employee

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
McClatchy-Tribune News Service



Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of *Secrets to Winning at Office Politics*. Send in questions and get free coaching tips at <http://www.yourofficecoach.com>, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.

Q: One of my employees refuses to accept me as his supervisor. Ever since I was transferred into this department, "Jack" has been extremely rude. He argues with me about everything and talks about how much he misses his former boss. He frequently makes these comments in front of other people, including my manager.

I need to let Jack know that his disrespectful attitude is completely unacceptable, but I don't want to make the situation worse. What's the best way to deal with such a hostile employee?

A: Jack's reaction to your arrival is certainly inappropriate, so your desire to reprimand him is understandable. Nevertheless, if your goal is to improve the relationship, a disciplinary talk may not be the best first step. Instead, acknowledge that this change has apparently been tough, then see if you can find out what's bothering him.

For example: "Jack, I know you haven't been very happy since your former manager left, and I'm sorry this change has been difficult. But even though it may be an adjustment, you and I still need to develop a cooperative, productive working relationship. Can you tell me what has been stressful about this for you?"

If Jack shares the reasons for his unhappiness, perhaps you can take steps to improve the situation. But if he refuses to open up, calmly make it clear that you aren't asking him to change his feelings, but you do expect him to change his behavior.

Q: The co-worker in the next cubicle is driving me crazy. "Hannah" talks to herself constantly about whatever project she is working on at the moment. This running commentary is so distracting that I can hardly hear myself think. Hannah and I have a good working relationship, so I don't want to offend her. How can I tactfully bring up this subject?

A: While some people need quiet to concentrate, others work best when they can think out loud. Like most ingrained personality traits, this innate difference in cognitive style is virtually impossible to change. Therefore, you must first understand that Hannah is not trying to be irritating. She is simply being herself.

The key to success in discussing this issue is to avoid sounding irritated or critical. Just describe what you have observed, then suggest developing a plan to accommodate your differences.

For example: "Hannah, I've noticed that you and I seem to have opposite work styles. When I have a project to complete, I need to focus on it quietly. But I believe you find it helpful to think out loud. Because our desks are so close together, I sometimes find it hard to concentrate when I hear you talking. Do you think we could find a way to compromise on this?"

If Hannah receives your message well, you can then explore mutually agreeable strategies for resolving this issue. Remember, though, that those who deliver feedback often get some in return. So you must also be open to any suggestions which Hannah may have for you.

Survey: Gas prices continue to decline nationally

CAMARILLO, Calif. (AP)—A national survey of gas prices reports that Americans are paying 12 cents on average less than they were three weeks ago.

Industry analyst Trilby

Lundberg said Sunday that the average for regular grade gas is \$3.26 per gallon, while midgrade averages \$3.48 and premium \$3.64. Retail diesel averages \$3.74.

Lundberg said the price has decreased for 16 weeks, crediting lower crude oil prices.

She forecast further cuts of a dime or more, thanks to decreases in the price of crude oil

and ethanol.

In the lower 48 states, San Francisco averaged the highest average price at \$3.66 per gallon, while Tulsa, Oklahoma, had the lowest average at \$2.93.

Flight attendants challenge FAA on electronic devices

By HUGO MARTIN
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Flight attendants battled federal aviation officials in court Friday to keep airline passengers from using electronic devices during takeoffs and landings.

The Association of Flight Attendants asked a three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit to overturn a ruling the Federal Aviation Administration made last year easing the use of computer tablets and smartphones on planes.

The flight attendants said the FAA violated the rule-making process when it lifted restrictions that prevented passengers from using electronic devices on takeoffs and landings.

The FAA changed the rules

without taking in public comment, the flight attendants argued. The union also worries that electronic devices can bounce around the cabin during turbulence and injure passengers.

"When an agency proposes a controversial change in a rule that affects public safety, it must be made through the proper rule-making process," the flight attendants said in a court document.

But the Court of Appeals seemed to be siding with the FAA.

"Airlines have always had discretion on how to handle this," Judge Harry T. Edwards told a lawyer for the union, according to the Associated Press. A final written ruling is expected to be released later.

Under the new FAA rules, electronic devices must be kept in "airplane mode" during takeoffs and landing. Voice calls are still forbidden on U.S. airlines.

"We are confident in our position that the FAA violated the administrative procedure act in

Boeing announces Garuda order for 50 planes

SEATTLE (AP)—Boeing Co. says that Garuda Indonesia placed an order for 50 jets with a total sticker price of \$4.9 billion.

Airlines often get steep discounts off list prices for jets.

Boeing said Sunday that Garuda will buy 46 of its 737 Max 8 aircraft and convert orders for four other 737s to the Max 8. The plane is designed to be more fuel-efficient than

current models of the single-aisle jet. The first delivery of a 737 Max to an airline is scheduled for 2017.

Boeing and rival Airbus have huge backlogs of commercial jet orders as airlines dealing with high fuel prices order more efficient planes.

Boeing says it has received 2,295 orders for the 737 Max models from 47 airlines and other customers worldwide.

Nation

Health care worker catches Ebola from man who died

DALLAS (AP)—Health officials are intensifying the monitoring of hospital workers who provided care to the first person to be diagnosed with Ebola in the U.S. after one of them was infected with the virus despite wearing protective gear.

Tests confirmed the first known case of Ebola transmitted in the nation, raising questions about assurances by health officials here that the disease will be contained and any American hospital should be able to treat it.

Dr. Tom Frieden, head of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, said Sunday that there had been a breach of protocol that led the worker to become infected while treating patient Thomas Eric Duncan, but officials are not sure what went wrong. Duncan, who traveled from Liberia to visit family, did not get sick until he arrived in the U.S. He died Wednesday.

The worker, who has not been identified, has not been able to point to how the breach might have occurred.

President Barack Obama asked the CDC to move as quickly as possible to investigate the incident, the White House said.

Dallas police barred entry to the health care worker's apartment complex Sunday. Officers also knocked on doors, made automated phone calls and



A hazmat worker moves a barrel while cleaning outside an apartment building of a hospital worker, Sunday, Oct. 12, 2014, in Dallas.

passed out fliers to notify people within a four-block radius about the situation, although Dallas authorities assured residents the risk was confined to those who have had close contact with the two Ebola patients.

The worker wore a gown, gloves, mask and shield while she cared for Duncan during his second visit to Texas

Health Presbyterian Hospital, said Dr. Daniel Varga of Texas Health Resources, which runs the hospital.

Duncan, who arrived in the U.S. from Liberia Sept. 20, first sought medical care for fever and abdominal pain Sept. 25. He told a nurse he had traveled from Africa, but he was sent home. He returned Sept. 28 and

was placed in isolation because of suspected Ebola.

Liberia is one of the three West African countries most affected by the Ebola epidemic, which has killed more than 4,000 people, according to World Health Organization figures published Friday. The others are Sierra Leone and Guinea.

Texas health officials have been closely monitoring nearly 50 people who had or may have had close contact with

Duncan in the days after he started showing symptoms but before he was diagnosed with the disease.

The health care worker reported a fever Friday night as part of a self-monitoring regimen required by the CDC, Varga said.

Another person described as a "close contact" of the health worker has been proactively placed in isolation, he added, without elaborating on where that person is being monitored.

The hospital said its emergency department is diverting ambulances to other hospitals, though is still accepting walk-in patients.

Frieden said officials are evaluating and will monitor any workers who may have been exposed while Duncan was in the hospital.

Among the things the CDC will investigate is how the workers took off protective gear, because removing it incorrectly can lead to contamination. Investigators will also look at dialysis and intubation—the insertion of a breathing tube in a patient's airway. Both procedures have the potential to spread the virus.

"We knew a second case could be a reality, and we've been preparing for this possibility," said Dr. David Lakey, commissioner of the Texas Department of State Health Services. "We are broadening our team in Dallas and working with extreme diligence to prevent further spread."

Every emergency room needs to be prepared to isolate and take infection control precautions, because no one can control where an Ebola patient might show up, said Dr. Dennis Maki, University of Wisconsin-Madison infectious disease specialist and former head of hospital infection control.

However, only large hospitals such as those affiliated with major universities truly have the equipment and manpower to deal with Ebola correctly, Maki said.

Federal judge strikes down Alaska gay marriage ban

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—A federal judge on Sunday struck down Alaska's first-in-the-nation ban on gay marriages, the latest court decision in a busy week for the issue.

The state of Alaska will begin accepting those applications first thing Monday morning, Phillip Mitchell, with the state Department of Vita Statistics, told The Associated Press in an email. Alaska has a three-day waiting period between applications and marriage ceremonies.

The late Sunday afternoon decision caught many people off guard. No rallies were immediately planned, but some plaintiffs celebrated over drinks at an Anchorage bar.

Matthew Hamby, who along with his husband Christopher Sheldon was one of five couples to sue, was "just have drinks with friends, enjoying it."

He said he was "elated" U.S. District Court Judge Timothy Burgess sided with them, and he planned to among the first in line to apply for a license Monday.

"This is just an amazing day for Alaska. We're just so fortunate that so many have fought for equality for so long—I

mean, decades," said Susan Tow, who along with her wife, Chris Laborde, were among couples who sought to overturn Alaska's ban.

Earlier in the week, the U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear appeals from several states that were seeking to retain their bans on same-sex marriage.

The move on Oct. 6 means that gay marriage is now effectively legal in about 30 states. But much of last week was marked by confusion as lower courts and states worked through when weddings can begin.

On Tuesday, a federal appeals court in the West overturned marriage bans in Nevada and Idaho. On Thursday, West Virginia officials began issuing gay marriage licenses, and Kansas' most populous county issued a marriage license Friday to a gay couple, believed to be the first such license in the state.

Sunday's ruling in Alaska came in a lawsuit brought by five gay couples who had asked the state to overturn a constitutional amendment approved by voters in 1998. The amendment defined marriage as being between one man and one woman.

The lawsuit filed in May sought to bar enforcement of

Alaska's constitutional ban on same-sex marriage. It also called for barring enforcement of any state laws that refuse to recognize gay marriages legally performed in other states or countries or that prevent unmarried gay couples from marrying.

Burgess heard arguments Friday afternoon and promised a quick decision. He released his 25-page decision Sunday afternoon.

"Refusing the rights and responsibilities afforded by legal marriage sends the public a government-sponsored message that same-sex couples and their familial relationships do not warrant the status, benefits and dignity given to couples of the opposite sex," Burgess wrote.

"This Court finds that Alaska's same-sex marriage laws violate the Due Process and Equal Protection Clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment because no state interest provides 'excessively persuasive justification' for the significant infringement of rights that they inflicted upon homosexual individuals," he wrote.

Gov. Sean Parnell said in a statement Sunday he was appealing to defend and uphold the law and the Alaska Constitution.

Teen dead, more than 20 hurt in hayride crash

MECHANIC FALLS, Maine (AP)—A Halloween-themed hayride loaded with passengers crashed down a hill in the Maine woods and slammed into a tree, fatally injuring a teenage girl and leaving more than 20 other people hurt, police said Sunday.

Seventeen-year-old Cassidy Charette of Oakland died from her injuries after the Gauntlet Haunted Night Ride wagon overturned Saturday night at a rural farm in Mechanic Falls, authorities said.

The crash "threw everyone off the trailer and into each other and into trees," said Sgt. Joel Davis of the state fire marshal's office. He said a mechanical problem prevented the SUV pulling the wagon from stopping.

Several actors participating in the ride's scenes assisted the injured riders—including some performing CPR—and likely helped prevent the accident from being even worse, Davis said.

About a half-dozen of those hurt remained hospitalized Sun-

day afternoon but their injuries did not appear life-threatening, Davis said.

Charette was among a group of friends who visit Harvest Hills Farm every fall, Davis said. One of her fellow students at Messalonskee High School, 16-year-old Connor Garland of Belgrade, was being treated at Boston Children's Hospital, state police spokesman Steve McCausland said.

Oakland resident Kathy Mathieu, whose son Zachary is a close friend of Connor, said Charette and Connor attended the school's homecoming celebration together last week. She said the community is planning a fundraiser for Charette's family.

"Everybody is doing everything they can to help this family," Mathieu said. "There are no words to express the sorrow for the parents."

Charette was a member of the school's girls' soccer team and scored goals in recent games, according to results in local media. Garland was a member of the Central Maine Owls, a 15-and-under baseball team that

won the state championship this year, according to the Portland Press Herald.

Messalonskee Principal Jon Moody sent a statement to the school community saying grief counselors will be available at the school this week.

The hay wagon was being pulled by a 1979 Jeep when it crashed, according to the fire marshal's office. The driver, identified by police as David Brown, 54, of South Paris, was among those hospitalized. Brown is an experienced trucker who has a commercial driver's license, according to a spokesman for the farm.

The sprawling New England farm is set on a forested hill in a rural area about 25 miles southwest of Augusta, set back from a two-lane road. A 10-foot, caged monster statue stands at the entrance to the haunted attraction. The farm also features Pumpkin Land—a daytime attraction.

"Our hearts and prayers go out to the family," farm spokesman Scott Lansley said. "We're a tight community. This is really a tragedy for us."

Asia

Cyclone in India kills 8 as typhoon hits Japan

HYDERABAD, India (AP)—A powerful cyclone that slammed into India's eastern seaboard weakened as it moved inland Monday, leaving at least eight dead in its wake. Rescue workers readied helicopters, aircraft and ships to carry out relief operations once daylight made clear the extent of damage.

In another storm lashing Asia, Typhoon Vongfong was downgraded to tropical storm as it hit the Japanese island of Kyushu after battering the southern island of Okinawa. At least 37 people were injured, and authorities advised 150,000 people to evacuate. Train service and flights were disrupted in Kyushu and the neighboring island of Shikoku.

Japan's Meteorological Agency said the storm could reach the Tokyo area by early Tuesday.

In India, Cyclone Hudhud moved 150 kilometers (95 miles) north-northwest of the city of Visakhapatnam, where it made landfall Sunday. Weather forecasters downgraded it to a tropical depression, with wind speeds of up to 70 kilometers per hour (45 miles per hour), considerably slower than on Sunday.



The death toll rose to eight, five in Andhra Pradesh state and three in Orissa state, mostly caused by wall collapses and falling trees, Indian officials said.

It was still raining across the

region, heavily in some places. Authorities plan to make an assessment of the damage caused as the day breaks and then decide on the contours of the relief operations.

Experts said the storm was

likely to have caused widespread destruction along nearly 300 kilometers (185 miles) of India's east coast. Communication services and electricity were cut off in some areas.

At least 400,000 people were

evacuated from the coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh and Orissa states ahead of the storm, and hundreds of shelters were set up to house them. Visakhapatnam, one of the largest cities in southern India and a major naval base, was bearing the brunt of the cyclone's fury.

Television footage from Visakhapatnam showed downed electrical poles, uprooted trees

AP
An Indian child sits inside a plastic bucket near his house on the Bay of Bengal coast at Gopalpur, Orissa, about 285 kilometers (178 miles) north east of Visakhapatnam, India, Sunday, Oct. 12, 2014.

and massive debris strewn in the streets. Electricity lines were disconnected in parts of Andhra Pradesh to avoid electrocutions, said Arvind Kumar, a relief and rescue official.

Andhra Pradesh's chief minister, N. Chandrababu Naidu, said Sunday that while the early evacuations had saved lives, the cyclone caused "huge damage" to buildings and crops in the coastal districts.

The Indian Ocean is a cyclone hot spot. Of the 35 deadliest storms in recorded history, 27 have come through the Bay of Bengal—and have landed in either India or Bangladesh. In 1999, a cyclone devastated Orissa's coastline and killed at least 10,000 people.

While India has a disastrous record of response to natural calamities, it managed last October to safely evacuate nearly a million people out of the path of Cyclone Phailin, the strongest tropical storm to hit India in more than a decade. Phailin destroyed hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of crops after it made landfall in Orissa, but claimed only about 25 lives.

Hong Kong police trim pro-democracy protest zone

HONG KONG (AP)—Hong Kong police trimmed a protest zone that has paralyzed traffic on key roads in the financial district for more than two weeks, removing some barricades used by pro-democracy protesters to allow some traffic through the area on Monday.

Police stressed that the dawn operation was not meant to clear the protesters, and said it was only to relieve traffic congestion as commuters returned to work. It was not immediately clear if police will take further action, but the move appeared to be a test of how the protesters would react.

"Today we haven't come to

clear the area," a police officer was seen telling protesters on local TV. "We just want to clear the barricades blocking the road and take back the government's tools and other property."

Tens of thousands of people have flooded the city's streets since Sept. 28 in a civil disobedience movement protesting government restrictions on the territory's 2017 election for its top leader. Protesters want authorities to drop a plan to use a pro-Beijing committee to screen candidates in the election.

The government has repeatedly urged protesters to retreat. Leung Chun-ying, the Chief

Executive, said Sunday the movement was "out of control" and that there was "almost zero chance" that the protests would change Beijing's position on Hong Kong.

On Monday, officers bringing riot helmets and shields descended on the financial district at around 5:30 a.m. to take away some unmanned barricades. There were no direct confrontations with protesters, although some of the demonstrations rushed to reinforce other barricades.

Dozens of demonstrators, donning goggles and face masks, locked arms and faced

off against officers in a brief standoff at the end of the protest zone in Admiralty district. Some demonstrators sought to reinforce their positions with large bamboo structures typically used as scaffolding.

The police operation went without incident, and several roads in the city's Central financial district reopened to traffic. An offshoot protest zone in Mong Kok, a crowded shopping district across the Victoria Harbor, was also trimmed.

Several dozen student-led protesters continue to occupy a key thoroughfare as well as streets in two shopping districts.

Multiple attacks kill at least 14 in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Suspected Taliban militants led a string of attacks on police and civilians across northern and eastern Afghanistan on Sunday, killing at least 14 people, security officials said.

The violence reflects the militants' persistent campaign against Afghanistan's Western-backed government, which last month signed separate security agreements with the United States and NATO allowing over 10,000 foreign troops to train and advise Afghan forces after the international combat mission ends at the end of the year.

In Mazar-e-Sharif, capital of the northern Balkh province, two gunmen dressed in police uniforms stormed into the province's police headquarters and opened fire, killing two officers, said Sher Jan Durani, a spokesman for the provincial police chief. Police intercepted the attackers at a second security gate inside the compound, and shot them dead, he said. Nine other policemen were wounded during the gun battle.

Separately, Taliban attacked a police checkpoint in Monogai district of eastern Kunar prov-

ince, killing three police officers and wounding three others, an Interior Ministry statement said. Six Taliban militants were killed and six others wounded in the battle.

In the Alishing district of eastern Laghman province, a rocket fired by militants killed three construction company workers, said Sarhadi Zwak, a spokesman for the provincial governor.

A car bomber carried out a suicide attack in eastern Wardak province, killing three civilians and three army soldiers in a strike that blew out several vehicles, said Attahullah Khogyani, a spokesman for the provincial governor. Six other civilians and two other soldiers were wounded in the attack in Sayed Abad district.

More than a decade after U.S. forces helped topple the Taliban in the wake of the Sept. 11 attacks, Afghanistan is still at war with the Islamic militant group, which regularly carries out attacks, mainly targeting security forces. The Taliban have stepped up their attacks on Afghan security forces as many foreign combat troops prepare to withdraw by year-end.

North Korea: Remains of US soldiers being moved

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea said Monday that the remains of American soldiers killed during the Korean War were being neglected and "carried away en masse," in an apparent effort to pressure Washington to resume recovery efforts that could also lead to much-needed money for the impoverished country.

The United States suspended efforts to recover the remains of thousands of U.S. soldiers who died during the Korean War because of the North's plans to launch a long-range rocket in 2012. The U.S. at the time was just starting the process of resuming excavation work that had been

suspended in 2005 when Washington said security arrangements for its personnel working in the North were insufficient. North Korea would have received millions of dollars in compensation for its support of the work.

About 8,000 U.S. service members are listed as missing from the 1950-53 war, and some 5,300 of the missing are believed to be in North Korea.

On Monday, an unidentified North Korean military spokesman said in a state media dispatch that the remains of American soldiers are "left here and there uncared and carried away en masse" because of building projects, land reorganization

and flood damage.

The U.S. war remains "now look like no better than stones as land rezoning and other gigantic nature-remaking projects made progress" in North Korea, the spokesman said. "The Obama administration should not forget even a moment the proverb saying that even a skeleton cries out of yearning for the homeland."

Analyst Chang Yong Seok at Seoul National University said the North's statement appears aimed at applying pressure to U.S. politicians and officials ahead of November elections to resume the recovery project, which could give the North a way to get foreign currency and

improved ties with Washington.

The U.S. and North Korea, which don't have formal diplomatic relations, are still technically at war because the Korean War ended with an armistice, not a peace treaty. The U.S. stations about 28,000 troops in South Korea to help deter North Korean aggression.

North Korea has been seeking better ties with the outside world in what foreign analysts say is an attempt to lure aid and investment to help revive its moribund economy. South Korean and U.S. officials have said the North must first take steps toward nuclear disarmament before talks can resume.

World

Kurds describe fierce battles on streets of Kobani

SURUC, Turkey (AP)—The shells were already roaring down on the Kurdish fighters from the hill above Kobani when more than 30 Islamic State militants backed by snipers and pickups mounted with heavy machine guns began their assault across the dusty fields.

Holed up in an industrial area of squat, concrete buildings on Kobani's eastern edges, the outgunned Kurds could do little to repel the attack, recalled Dalil Boras, one of the defenders during the Oct. 6 assault. The Islamic State group's firepower proved too much, so the Kurds withdrew through the gray streets to a tree-lined park, ceding a foothold in the town to the extremist fighters, who promptly raised two black flags over their newly conquered territory.

A week later, the Kurdish men and women of the People's Protection Units, or YPG, are still holding out, if barely, with a helping hand from more than 20 airstrikes by the U.S.-led coalition against Islamic State positions.

They have been battered by tanks shells and mortars, and picked off by snipers using American-made rifles. They have no answer for the heavy weapons that Islamic State fighters have looted from Iraqi and Syrian army bases. And

while they are slowly yielding ground, they so far have prevented the town from being overrun, defending it zealously with little more than light weapons, booby-traps and a fervent belief in their cause.

Along the way, the predominantly Kurdish town along Syria's border with Turkey has been transformed from a dusty backwater into a symbol of resistance for Kurds around the world. It also has grabbed the international media spotlight, which has helped turn the defense of Kobani into a very public test for the American-led international effort to roll back and ultimately destroy the Islamic State group.

The battle itself is now playing out in Kobani's streets and alleyways—a fight being watched by scores of Syrian and Turkish Kurds, as well as dozens of journalists, through binoculars from hilltops and farms just across the border in Turkey.

From that vantage point, the town spreads out among the rocky hills and brown fields just beyond the frontier. Plumes of black smoke billow over the low-slung skyline. The occasional thud of mortar shells mixes with the clatter of heavy machine guns and assault rifles.

Kurdish fighters and civil-

ians who have recently fled describe a much grittier scene inside the town. Both of the warring sides have knocked holes in walls to move between buildings—a tactic employed in urban fighting for decades. On cross streets, blankets have been hung to limit exposure to snipers. Rubble litters the streets. Smoke hangs in the air. The few remaining civilians have sought shelter in basements.

Boras, a short and stocky 19-year-old dressed in dusty black jeans and a black T-shirt, explained how Kurdish fighters are organized into small groups of sometimes as few as five or six people, who stake out positions on the front lines. Teams with rocket-propelled grenades and Russian-designed machine guns known here as "Doshkas" have taken up positions in the upper stories of

some buildings to maximize the Kurds' limited firepower.

"We are communicating with walkie-talkies," Boras said recently during a three-day break from the fight. "We tell them on our walkie-talkie that they're attacking and we throw a red smoke bomb to show the position of the attack, and then the machine guns and RPGs provide support."

Kurdish men and women fighters spread out on the vari-

ous fronts are mainly armed with Kalashnikov assault rifles and grenades. They carry backpacks with ammunition, biscuits and canned beans and hummus, and when they run low they call into headquarters.

"We have special words for martyrs, wounded, ammunition and food on the walkie-talkie," Boras said. They frequently switch frequencies to avoid being spied on over the airwaves.

Donors pledge \$2.7 billion for Gaza reconstruction



Palestinians sit between the rubble of their destroyed building in Shijaiyah, neighborhood of Gaza City, in the northern Gaza Strip, Sunday, Oct. 12, 2014.

Triple suicide bombing in Iraq kills 58 people

BAGHDAD (AP)—A triple suicide bombing Sunday killed at least 58 people in Iraq as a roadside bomb killed the police chief of the western Anbar province, authorities said, attacks that dealt major blows to Iraqi security forces struggling to combat the Islamic State extremist group.

The triple attack took place in Qara Tappah in ethnically mixed Diyala province, an official from the Kurdish Asayish security forces said. He said the first bomber detonated an explosives vest at the gateway to a security compound that also houses the office of a main Kurdish political party. Minutes later, two suicide bombers plowed cars filled with explosives into the compound, causing heavy damage, he said.

The Islamic State extremist group claimed the attack, saying it was carried out by three foreign jihadists. The authenticity of the online statement could not be independently verified, but it was posted on a Twitter account frequently used by the militant group.

The group has seized towns in volatile Diyala province and has clashed with Kurdish forces there.

Hospital officials confirmed

the casualties. All officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media.

Bashir al-Dalawi, a member of the Qara Tappah municipal council, where the attacks took place, said that the bombs detonated near a government building, leading to the higher death toll. He says at least 107 people were wounded in the attack.

He added that some of the wounded were sent to hospital in the Kurdish self-ruled region for treatment.

In the Anbar attack, Brig. Gen. Ahmed al-Dulaimi was killed while traveling in a convoy north of the provincial capital Ramadi through an area cleared by Iraqi security forces a day earlier, Anbar councilman Faleh al-Issawi said. It was not immediately clear if others were killed or wounded.

The Islamic State group and allied Sunni militants seized the Anbar city of Fallujah, parts of Ramadi and large rural areas of Anbar early this year. The loss of Fallujah—where American troops engaged in some of the heaviest fighting of the eight-year U.S.-led war in the country—foreshadowed the later loss of second city Mosul and much of the north.

CAIRO (AP)—Donors at an international conference Sunday promised \$2.7 billion to rebuild the war-ravaged Gaza Strip, but all of the key participants said their efforts would be futile without a permanent peace between Israel and the Palestinians.

U.S.-mediated talks broke down this summer before the 50-day war between Hamas and Israel began—the third since 2008—and it remains unclear how peace can come about.

Norwegian Foreign Minister Borge Brende, who co-chaired

the one-day meeting with Egypt, said pledges of \$5.4 billion have been made, but that only half of that money would be "dedicated" to the reconstruction of the coastal strip.

Brende did not say what the other half of the funds would be spent on. Other delegates have spoken of budgetary support, boosting economic activity, emergency relief and other projects.

"The message was clear to the international community that the Palestinian brothers are not alone," Egyptian For-

eign Minister Sameh Shukri told a news conference after the meeting.

Qatar offered the biggest donation of \$1 billion—once again using its vast wealth to reinforce its role as a regional player. The United Arab Emirates—a Gulf Arab rival of Qatar—promised \$200 million.

The pledges followed U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry's announcement of immediate American assistance of \$212 million. The European Union pledged 450 million euros (\$568 million), while Turkey,

which has been playing a growing regional role, said it was donating \$200 million.

Qatari Foreign Minister Khalid bin Mohammed al-Attiyah, in announcing his country's pledge, denounced the "international silence" that surrounded Gaza's destruction.

"While the Palestinian people need financial support, they need more political support from the international community," he said. "A just peace is the only real guarantee for not destroying what we are about to rebuild and reconstruct."

Putin orders troops away from Ukraine border

MOSCOW (AP)—Russian President Vladimir Putin has ordered thousands of Russian troops near the Ukrainian border to return to their usual bases, according to his spokesman.

Dmitry Peskov told Russian news outlets late Saturday in Sochi that Putin had ordered approximately 17,600 troops to return home from Rostov, a southern region that borders east Ukraine, where pro-Russian insurgents have been battling government troops since April.

The Kremlin has said that

troops stationed in Rostov were participating in drills, but Ukraine and the West have repeatedly accused Russia of fueling the insurgency with arms, expertise, and fighters, and have slapped Moscow with sanctions in response to its moves in the region.

Previous Russian claims of troop withdrawals have been countered by NATO. In March, Russia announced a troop withdrawal of only one battalion—a unit of about 500—while NATO insisted that tens of thousands remained near the border.

In the spring, the U.S. and NATO said that Russia had deployed about 40,000 troops near the border, though Putin ordered the troops back to their home bases in late May. While the U.S. and NATO did confirm those moves, in August they said Russia was again bolstering its forces in the region and that Russia had allowed troops and vehicles to cross the border to assist the separatists.

The withdrawal may be a sign of good will ahead of Putin's trip to Milan on Thurs-

day, where he is set to meet with Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko and European Union leaders.

As EU and U.S. sanctions against Russia begin to bite and economic growth falters, Moscow may also hope that a troop withdrawal will bolster the chance that Western nations will revoke those measures. Late last month, German Chancellor Angela Merkel said that the EU was still not considering removing the sanctions because of ongoing fighting in east Ukraine.

Focus

Measuring MLK's peace prophecy, 50 years later

By JESSE WASHINGTON
AP NATIONAL WRITER

The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. dedicated his life to much more than achieving racial equality. That goal, he said again and again, was inseparable from alleviating poverty and stopping war. And he reiterated this theme after being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize 50 years ago this week.

"I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war, that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality," he said in his Nobel acceptance speech.

"Sooner or later, all the people of the world will have to discover a way to live together in peace."

Half a century later, it's obvious that enormous progress has been made toward overcoming racial discrimination—that King was right in his vision about race. Yet widespread poverty remains, in America and beyond, and bombs still fall as brutal wars rage on.

Was King naive? Was his full vision simply unobtainable—do free markets require poor people to function, and will war always assert itself as a defining human habit?

Is King's Nobel vision relevant five decades later?

Absolutely, insist some who study King's life and philosophy. They say his racial proclamations and strategies, so controversial back then but now part of the American cultural canon, can and should apply to today's stubborn issues of poverty and war.

"I don't think his vision has ever been more relevant," says Paul Chappell, a West Point graduate who served in Iraq and now teaches and writes books about peace. "The problem is, people don't realize how prophetic King was."

Chappell, the Peace Leadership Director for the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, which seeks a world without nuclear weapons, says a close examination of King's life and work shows he predicted today's protests over income inequality and trillions of war dollars drained from America's budgets.

"He realized that American military intervention is not only harmful to people around the world, it's also harmful to the American people," Chappell says.

The peace prize for King, then just 35 years old, honored a Southern preacher whose philosophy, courage and oratory galvanized the civil rights movement, on whose behalf he said he accepted it. It gave a unique international recognition to the movement's accomplishments at a pivotal time.

The prize was announced on October 14, 1964, against a backdrop of the Civil Rights



In this Dec. 10, 1964, file photo, through the smoke and fire from hundreds of torches, U.S. civil rights leader and Nobel Peace Prize winner, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., arrives with his wife Coretta to deliver the traditional Nobel address at the University of Oslo Festival Hall.

Violence never brings permanent peace. It solves no social problem; it merely creates new and more complicated ones.

Act, whose passage earlier that year finally granted black Americans full citizenship. But it also came as the nation approached all-out war in Vietnam. King accepted the award in Oslo, Norway, on December 10, and the following day delivered the traditional Nobel lecture.

In his remarks, King returned to a lifelong theme of describing a world where love and compassion could conquer poverty and conflict. His strategies were based on non-violence—"the need for man to overcome oppression and violence without resorting to violence and oppression," as he said in his speech.

"The foundation of such a method is love," he said.

"The Nobel speeches really are neglected gems of how long-term progress against these evils requires a great commitment of mind and spirit and cooperation all rolled into one," says the historian Taylor Branch, author of the definitive trilogy "America in the King Years."

"I don't think he's naïve," Branch says. "I think he's saying, if there's hope, it's through nonviolent cooperation and

really applying it with courage and all your heart and your mind against the evils that still plague the world."

Branch says that even though dozens of countries are at war today, levels of global violence and large-scale casualties have been declining since the mid-20th century. By that measure, there has been progress toward King's dream of peace.

King used his Nobel lecture to expand on the connections between racism, poverty and war.

"Each of these problems, while appearing to be separate and isolated, is inextricably bound to the other," he said.

Using nonviolence to achieve racial progress, King said, meant people "have taken suffering upon themselves instead of inflicting it on others. It has meant that we do not want to

instill fear in others or into the society of which we are a part."

That society is far bigger than America, King stated. It is the human family.

"We have inherited a big house, a great 'world house' in which in which we have to live together—black and white, Easterners and Westerners, Gentiles and Jews, Catholics and Protestants, Moslem and Hindu, a family unduly separated in ideas, culture, and interests who, because we can never again live without each other, must learn, somehow, in this one big world, to live with each other," King lectured.

"This call for a worldwide fellowship that lifts neighborly concern beyond one's tribe, race, class, and nation is in reality a call for an all-embracing and unconditional love for all men."

Some say love has nothing to do with it. "War is embedded in our very nature," the influential scholar Edward O. Wilson wrote in his book "The Social Conquest of Earth," which argues that humans have developed, biologically, a tendency to fight. Others argue that some income inequality is inevitable, since people have different capabilities.

Yet there is the question of degree. Clayborne Carson, a history professor and director of Stanford University's Martin Luther King Jr. Research and Education Institute, says King had focused on the triple threat of racism, poverty and war since the earliest parts of his career.

"You couldn't solve one without solving the others," Carson says in describing King's view.

In that context, today's struggle against enduring poverty and war may reflect a resistance to King's holistic approach: We followed King's lead to push back racism, but haven't yet tried to apply his methods of love and shared suffering to poverty and war.

"If the distribution of wealth in America was less unequal, we wouldn't see as many of these manifestations of racial

conflict," Carson says.

The gap between the richest and poorest Americans has grown over the last 40 years, according to a February 2014 report by the liberal Economic Policy Institute. And the poverty rate, 15 percent in 2012, the most recent year available, hasn't improved much since 1964, when it stood at 19 percent.

King said in Oslo: "It is obvious that if man is to redeem his spiritual and moral 'lag,' he must go all out to bridge the social and economic gulf between the 'haves' and the 'have nots' of the world. Poverty is one of the most urgent items on the agenda of modern life."

Carson provided another example of King's strategies being ignored: the idea that "if we just fight against these terrorists, terrorism will go away. One of the things King said is that the United States is the greatest purveyor of violence in the world today. We don't see that in ourselves, we (think we) use violence for good."

Chappell, the soldier turned peacemaker, said King was ahead of his time in calling for solving international problems without war, because there are often no military solutions available today.

"In purely military terms, look at Russia. There is no military option for us, because they have nuclear weapons," Chappell said. "With ISIS, you have people from Britain and Turkey and probably the United States who want to join ISIS. It's an ideology. How do you deal with this problem in a conventional military way?" ISIS is another name for the terrorist group calling itself the Islamic State.

Observed King in his lecture: "Violence never brings permanent peace. It solves no social problem; it merely creates new and more complicated ones."

"Violence ends up defeating itself," he said.

These were King's thoughts 50 years ago as he sought to heal a nation fraught with centuries-old racial barriers and to safeguard a world with growing stockpiles of nuclear weapons.

Today, as society continues to realize King's racial dreams, perhaps there is still prophecy to be fulfilled in his Nobel talks.

"Is it possible that the road he and his people have charted may bring a ray of hope to other parts of the world, a hope that conflicts between races, nations, and political systems can be solved, not by fire and sword, but in a spirit of true brotherly love?" Gunnar John, chairman of the Nobel committee, asked when giving King the peace prize.

"It sounds like a dream of a remote and unknown future," he said, "but life is not worth living without a dream and without working to make the dream reality."

Overdrive

2015 Honda Fit is still different—and mostly good

By TERRY BOX
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

Wacky, wispy Honda Fits make Minis seem substantial.

They raucously celebrate small, proudly wearing wedgy little bodies that vaguely resemble George Jetson's slippers.

Every time I see one of the moon-dusted pods in traffic, I halfway expect weird guys with red noses and yellow shoes to leap out, juggling balls and pigeons.

Here's the deal, though: While oddly styled and dramatically diminutive—qualities I appreciate—the Fit has attracted big accolades for nearly a decade.

Since 2006, it has been one of the shiniest skates on the road, a 2,600-pound subcompact that sings when pushed, smiles when shoved and tackles curves and corners with good-natured vigor.

And the Fit delivers its fun for a starting price of less than \$16,000—sort of like an exciting date happy to tolerate a Big Mac from the drive-through for dinner.

So Honda faced a daunting challenge when it began restyling and re-engineering the 2015 Fit.

The Fit is not a high-volume vehicle; its sales last year were 53,513. But it combines packaging, practicality and commendable levels of performance in ways no one else in the segment can match.

And Honda didn't coast on the '15 Fit, giving it a new engine, platform and body.

Honda mostly got Fit 2.0 right, although, like previous revamps to vehicles such as the Civic and Accord, it wasn't totally successful.

The teenager blue Fit EX-L



MCT

The 2015 Honda Fit combines packaging, practicality and commendable levels of performance in ways no one else in the segment can match.

I had recently, for example, rode on a wheelbase stretched a slight 1.2 inches from the previous car's.

That modest increase coupled with a redesigned rear suspension provided an astounding 4.8 inches of additional leg room in the back seat.

As you can see from the photos, the Fit kept its rounded front end and very short hood. Likewise, the minimalist hood ended at the base of a huge, steeply raked windshield—pretty much identical to the last Fit.

The five-passenger wagon also kept its rakishly curved top and extremely brief overhangs front and rear, as well as a flat hatchback.

What puzzled me were deep new character lines beneath the door handles that slid down to a starting point behind the front wheels.

A second line just above the rocker panel curved up to the rear wheel well, and the sum total gave the sides a pretty busy look.

Moreover, the lines formed a shoulder over the rear fender that made the rear of the Fit look thick, kind of dwarfing its already-small 16-inch wheels and 185/55 tires.

EXAGGERATED LOOK

Although the old Fit rarely turned heads, at least it looked purposeful. The new one seems kind of exaggerated to me.

But to be honest, I got off on the wrong foot with the Fit—or possibly the wrong hand. I had hoped for one with the new six-speed manual transmission, which I figured would wring the most out of the car's 1.5-liter, 130-horsepower four-banger.

Mine, however, only had two pedals—and it got worse. Like the new Honda Accord, this year's Fit traded its real automatic transmission for a continuously variable-ratio transmission. It's rarely good news when you send pulleys and belts to do the work of real gears.

In typical Honda fashion, the four-cylinder in the Fit felt

NUTS & BOLTS

- Type of vehicle: Front-wheel-drive, five-passenger hatchback crossover
- Price as tested: \$21,590
- Fuel economy: 32 miles per gallon city, 38 highway
- Weight: 2,572 pounds
- Engine: 1.5-liter four-cylinder with 130 horsepower and 114 pound-feet of torque
- Transmission: Continuously variable
- Performance: 0 to 60 mph in 8 seconds

sweet and rich, with a silky idle. It also generated decent thrust, responding to modest throttle inputs happily.

But when I tried to merge with traffic on the freeway and summoned more coal for the fire, the Fit felt lethargic, braying at me as the CVT tried to build up revs.

Although the Fit can jog to 60 in a reasonable eight seconds, according to Car and Driver, it felt slower than that, especially in hard-charging traffic.

Around town, the Fit was fine. But things went slack under heavy throttle as the CVT just seemed to sap the little

crossover's spirit at speed.

QUICK STEERING

Not to pile on, but the handling also seemed less crisp than in the last Fit I drove.

The front-wheel-drive Fit still turned into corners eagerly, resolutely refusing to heel over on its skinny tires.

But it felt less agile and eager to be flung into curves and corners—just a touch more tenuous.

Fortunately, the steering seemed fine, so maybe it's just a matter of needing a slightly stiffer sport suspension. Quick and light, the steering felt as well-connected as a Highland Park blueblood—though it didn't provide much feedback from the road.

Let's be honest, though. The Fit is primarily an economical (32 miles per gallon in town, 38 on the highway) people-mover that was once a real gamer, delivering as much performance as it could muster. While the '15 model is less playful, it still provided a taut, expensive-feeling ride with well-tuned rebound over bumps.

As well it should, perhaps. The Fit I had could just about claim top-of-the-line status with its still reasonable \$21,590 window sticker.

Nissan will recall 220,000 Altimas because hoods could fly open

The hoods of 2013 Nissan Altima sedans can fly open while driving, the automaker disclosed in a notice to federal regulators saying that it plans to recall more than 220,000 cars.

According to documents from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the problem centers around the hood's inner panel, which can interfere with a secondary latch

on some models that's supposed to keep the hood closed. Corrosion and debris can make the problem worse.

If the primary hood latch somehow gets released while the car is on the road, the second latch could fail, causing the hood to open unexpectedly.

The recall covers 2013 Nissan Altimas with a manufacture date of March 6, 2012, to

Feb. 28, 2013.

Nissan hasn't said yet when it will notify owners of the next steps.

According to the NHTSA, Nissan dealerships will either fix the angle of the lever so it doesn't stick to the inner panel, or, if there's a major problem, replace the latch assembly, free of charge. *(Los Angeles Times)*

MOTORING Q&A

Check engine light can't reset itself

By PAUL BRAND
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Q: We have 184,000 miles on our 2005 Chrysler Town & Country van with 3.8-liter engine. The other day my wife drove it down the block and didn't notice the red path of oil on the road. She came back immediately when she noticed the van would only "rev up and not go." The check engine light came on and she barely made back. I found that one of the hoses from the transmission control solenoid to the radiator had burst. This was an easy fix and I added 2.5 quarts of transmission fluid. The van runs and shifts normally. However, the check engine light remained on

and my scan tool showed four codes—P0732, P0700, P0734 and P0700. I understand the 732 and 734 codes are for gear ratio misalignment and the 700 code is merely an informational code. My scan tool wouldn't let me clear these codes but later that day the check engine light went off after about 30 miles of driving. Can the check engine light reset itself? Is there anything else I should be concerned about?

A: No, the computer cannot erase those codes from its memory. But it can turn off the check engine light after a certain number of key on/off cycles if it does not see the problem again. This allows the system to illu-

minate the check engine light again if the same or some other failure occurs.

The total fluid capacity of the 41TE-AE transmission is 9.7 quarts, so the vehicle lost less than one-third of its fluid. Adding the fact that it has survived 184,000 miles, I wouldn't be particularly worried—I don't think any significant damage was done.

Q: I have an annoying whine in my 2010 Chevy Impala steering wheel. I understand it is the clock spring and would be rather expensive to fix. Can you explain what the function of the clock spring is and are there any inexpensive fixes? Are there any potential problems just living with it?

A: Actually, the total cost to replace the clock spring, according to my ALLDATA labor guide, is roughly \$300. The clock spring assembly provides electrical continuity to the driver air bag through the entire range of steering wheel movement. If there is an electrical issue with the clock spring, the restraint system warning light would be illuminated.

But I question whether the whine you're hearing is actually coming from the steering column/wheel. If it is originating from the front of the vehicle as you turn the wheel, the issue is more likely related to the power steering pump or fluid. A complete flush and refill with correct power steering is inexpensive and a good preventive maintenance procedure.

Q: I hope you can answer questions concerning timing

belts and timing chains. I own a 2004 2.4-liter four-cylinder Toyota Camry with 82,000 miles. My mechanic says it has a timing chain, but the maintenance schedule says to replace the timing belt at 90,000 miles but only for those models with the six-cylinder engine. Toyota dealers advise replacing the timing belt at 60,000 miles. Does my vehicle have a timing belt or a timing chain and when should a belt or a chain be replaced? I get a bit apprehensive when I am on the highway going 65 mph.

A: Your mechanic is correct, as is the owner's manual. The camshafts in this engine are driven by a steel-link roller timing chain, not a rubber cogged belt. There is no routine replacement called for with timing chains, which

is an advantage over timing belts. Coupled with the fact that this is a non-interference engine, meaning there would be no valve-to-piston contact should the chain fail, no worries. As you noted, the 3- and 3.3-liter V6 engines available in this vehicle featured timing belts that require replacement at 90,000 mile intervals.

Paul Brand, author of How to Repair Your Car, is an automotive troubleshooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver. Readers may write to him at: Star Tribune, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn., 55488 or via email at paulbrand@startribune.com. Please explain the problem in detail and include a daytime phone number. Because of the volume of mail, we cannot provide personal replies.

Life & Style

Critics: Haunted house's 'Gacy room' insensitive

VILLA PARK, Illinois (AP)—Two former prosecutors who helped convict John Wayne Gacy say that horror filmmaker Rob Zombie's decision to include in his suburban Chicago haunted house a room dedicated to the serial killer could be hurtful to the many loved ones of Gacy's victims who still live in the area.

"I don't argue with Rob Zombie's right to do what he's doing but it's a shame that what he's doing is causing the vic-

tims' families pain," Robert Egan, who now teaches law in the area, told The (Arlington Heights) Daily Herald.

"I find it to be in terrible taste," said Terry Sullivan, a former prosecutor who helped win a conviction of Gacy that led to his execution in 1994.

The newspaper reports that Zombie has in interviews described the Gacy room as "funny." And the haunted house's producer, Steve Kopelman said the true crime rooms dedicated to the likes of Gacy, Jeffrey Dahmer and Charles Manson was meant to be shocking to

visitors. The website of the haunted house says it charges the public from \$25-\$60 to view the displays.

Egan understands that the fascination people have with Gacy, 40 years after he lured at least 33 young men to his Chicago area home, killed them and stashed many of their bodies under the crawl space of his house. And he suspects younger people who don't remember the very real horror that gripped the area

and America might see Gacy as sort of an "urban legend."

But Egan said the haunted house and the room in which an actor dressed as Gacy in his infamous clown costume with two dolls dressed as Boy Scouts sit on the couch is just 10 miles (16 kilometers) from where the family of the last identified victim lived at the time and still lives. "It's not like this is in the middle of Nebraska; it is close to where most of the victims

and where many of their families still live."

Not only that, but Egan said that for many people the slayings are not just history, but something they live, including those who continue to give DNA samples in an effort to determine if any of the still unidentified victims of Gacy are their loved ones.

"So all these people are sitting on the edge of their seats anyway," he said.

Chelsea Handler special debuts Friday on Netflix

NEW YORK (AP)—Chelsea Handler is proud of herself for knowing when to say when.

And the outspoken comedian says she knew when it was time to say goodbye to her E! talk show, "Chelsea Lately."

Handler ended the seven-year run of the show in August.

"The last two years were not pleasant for me," she said in a recent interview. "It wasn't brutal. It was an easy job, but I was just bored. I was bored of myself. I was bored of the topics. I was bored of being at work and I just needed to spread my wings. I just needed to get out of there."

Handler announced in June that she had struck a deal with online TV network Netflix. A stand-up performance based on her best-selling book and comedy tour "Uganda Be Kidding Me" debuts Friday.

Next year, she'll create four docu-comedy specials on topics like Silicon Valley and the NBA draft, where

she's a "fish out of water," and then she'll star in a talk show on Netflix in 2016.

"I wanted a year to figure out what I want to do. I didn't want to just step right into another talk show, nor did Netflix," the 39-year-old Handler said. "They said, 'No, we want you to have your next phase of your career.'"

Handler said she will feature celebrities on her talk show if there's a reason to do so. "It has to be my choice. There has to be some intrigue there. It can't be just somebody promoting something."

Her favorite part about the show: there's no template; she's in uncharted territory.

"I want to do something that I've never seen anyone do before because I don't want to follow anyone, I don't want to pale in comparison to anyone else. ... I trust myself implicitly. I know now that when I have a hesitation, it's a reason and I should follow my instincts."



In this May 2, 2013 file photo, Chelsea Handler arrives at "An Unforgettable Evening" benefiting EIF's Women's Cancer Research Fund at The Beverly Wilshire in Beverly Hills, Calif. AP

Clooney makes surprise Comic Con appearance

NEW YORK (AP)—Newly married George Clooney surprised fans with an appearance at New York Comic-Con on Thursday.

Clooney, who married human rights lawyer Amal Alamuddin on Sept. 27 in Venice, Italy, walked on stage during a panel discussion for the upcoming Disney fantasy film, "Tomorrowland," in which he plays a hermit inventor.

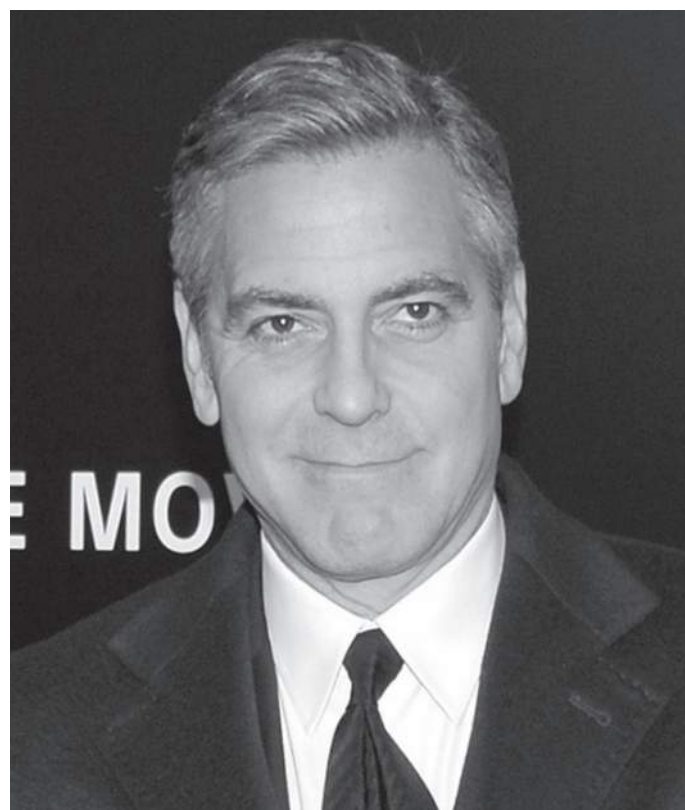
"It's not lost on me that I'm spending my honeymoon at Comic-Con," Clooney told the crowd to thunderous applause.

Panel moderator Chris Hardwick then asked the actor, "So what did you say, 'Honey we're going to Comic-Con.'"

"She was as confused as you all were," Clooney said.

Before walking on stage, Disney showed the crowd a two-minute trailer of the film.

"We've been waiting on this for a year and a half and that's it," Clooney told director Brad Bird. "I'm barely in



In this Feb. 4, 2014 file, director and actor George Clooney attends the premiere of "The Monuments Men" at the Ziegfeld Theatre in New York. AP

the teaser."

Later, Clooney introduced an exclusive clip from the film that prominently showed him and Britt Robertson in an action sequence.

Clooney called the experience larger than anything he's ever done.

"We were all over the world for this film. Hugh (Laurie) and I got to get in trouble in the Bahamas. That was fun, two former television doctors," Clooney told the crowd to prolonged laughter. "Bring on that McSteamy guy, we'll take on all of them TV doctors."

Laurie starred on "House," while Clooney appeared on "ER."

He also hammed it up with references to superheroes. "Since I did Batman, I've been de-invited from Comic-Con. ... I met Adam West and apologized."

"Tomorrowland" is set for release in May

Santa Fe courthouse featured in USA TV pilot

SANTA FE, New Mexico (AP)—A vacant Santa Fe courthouse was transformed this week into a U.S. Embassy in the Middle East, thanks to the magic of television.

Crews have been filming in downtown Santa Fe for the USA Network pilot, "Stanistan," the Santa Fe New Mexican reported.

The dramedy follows CIA officers, State Department employees and journalists working out of an American compound. "Dexter" star Jennifer Carpenter headlines the series. It also co-stars Zach Gilford ("Friday Night Lights") and Jonathan Cake ("Desperate Housewives").

An entrance of the former state District Court building was guarded by gray walls topped with barbed wire on Thursday. A U.S. government seal was attached to the main doors with numerous sandbags lining the walkway.

The production shut down parts of the streets near the courthouse, covering one portion with mud.

Showrunner Michael Duggan

says the production, which started Tuesday, is also using Santa Fe Studios south of the city. The props added to the building should be down in a few days depending on the shooting schedule, Duggan said.

The 56,000-square-foot (5,200-square-meter) building has remained empty since court operations moved to another building in June 2013. The County Commission approved a plan in March to raze the courthouse

and erect a new one.

In the meantime, the property has found new life as a movie set. The space was used for a Lifetime TV movie, "Jubilee," and the now-cancelled A&E crime drama, "Longmire."



The old district courthouse building in downtown Santa Fe, NM has been transformed into a U.S. Embassy for the pilot episode of a new TV show call "Stanistan" on Thursday, Oct. 9, 2014. AP

O'Connell: Jolie film 'Unbroken' biggest challenge

LONDON (AP)—Jack O'Connell, 24, is a hot property right now.

Following his much-acclaimed performance earlier this year in the angry prison drama "Starred Up," now he is receiving rave reviews for his part in director Yann Demange's high-octane debut "71." And then there's his highly anticipated role in director Angelina Jolie's "Unbroken" later this year.

The rising young star says he's not letting all the attention go to his head—he just thinks about what's next and how he can do the best possible job.

"Otherwise I'd just be a one-trick pony. I just got to look forward," he says.

In "71," O'Connell plays Gary Hook, a British soldier lost in the streets of Belfast. For the half-English, half-Irish actor, Northern Ireland's decades of unrest are a very real part of his family history.

"I had to know that the film wasn't going to try and point fingers and take a biased view on anything, nor portray anyone either side of the divide unfairly," he said.



O'Connell

He even considered joining the military as a teen.

"I thought there was an honor in it and I still believe that," he said.

Luckily for film lovers, O'Connell turned to acting instead and his role in Jolie's "Unbroken," due for release around Christmas, could firmly establish him in Hollywood. O'Connell plays former U.S. Olympic distance runner Louis Zamperini, who enlisted in the U.S. Air Force during WWII, where he was shot down over

the Pacific and spent two years as a Japanese prisoner of war. He had to lose a lot of weight for the very physical role.

O'Connell says he found the experience "maturing."

"It made a man out of me and it broke me, contrary to the title," he said.

The actor described Zamperini,

who he met before his death in July at age 97, as a "most extraordinary human being."

"He was so humble," he added. "He never once considered himself anything extraordinary at all."

O'Connell said "Unbroken" was his big biggest challenge to date because he was "under

the command of one of the most famous people on the planet"—director Jolie.

"I think the more I focused on the enormity of the whole project, the more it felt beyond me," he said.

"Unbroken" is set for U.S. release Dec. 25, reaching UK cinemas on Dec. 26.

Queen Elizabeth honors Angelina Jolie at palace

LONDON (AP)—Queen Elizabeth II has honored campaigning actress Angelina Jolie in a Buckingham Palace ceremony.

The queen made Jolie an honorary dame for her work against sexual violence in war zones and her services to British foreign policy.

She received the award Friday during a private meeting with the queen.

The decision to grant it was announced in June when Jolie co-chaired a conference in London aimed at curbing war-related sexual violence. She worked closely with former British Foreign

Minister William Hague on that conference.

The 39-year-old Jolie has drawn praise from many world figures for her work on behalf of refugees and victims of sexual violence.

Jolie recently married longtime partner Brad Pitt and starred in the film "Maleficent."



U.S. actress Angelina Jolie, right, is presented with the Insignia of an Honorary Dame Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of St Michael and St George by Britain's Queen Elizabeth II at Buckingham Palace, London, Friday, Oct. 10, 2014.

Judge: NY 'Mafia Cop' lawsuits may proceed

NEW YORK (AP)—A judge is allowing families of seven men killed in mob hits to move forward with wrongful death lawsuits against the city because the crimes involved two ex-detectives.

According to the Staten

Island Advance (<http://bit.ly/1vR9Inw>), Judge Raymond Dearie says there's evidence suggesting the killings wouldn't have occurred if New York Police Department Detective Louis Eppolito had been fired or disciplined after he was caught

passing police records to a mobster in 1984.

The city's Law Department says it's reviewing the decision.

Eppolito and Stephen Caracappa are serving life in prison. The slayings took place between 1986 and 1991.

Eppolito's retired from the NYPD in 1990. His father was a Gambino crime family member. Eppolito played a bit part in Martin Scorsese's "GoodFellas" mob film and launched an unsuccessful screenwriting career.

Pregnant Kate plans to resume royal duties

LONDON (AP)—The Duchess of Cambridge plans to resume royal duties later this month after being sidelined by a prolonged bout of severe morning sickness.

Palace officials said Friday that Prince William and the former Kate Middleton are scheduled to welcome Singapore President Tony Tan when he arrives on a four-day state visit on Oct. 21.

She had canceled a number of engagements after her second pregnancy was announced in early September. Officials said at the time she was being treated for acute morning sickness at the family quarters in Kensington Palace.

The condition also marked the first trimester of her first pregnancy, when she was carrying Prince George.

Officials said Kate's participation in the welcoming ceremony will be reviewed in the coming weeks.



In this Monday, April 14, 2014, file photo, Britain's Kate, Duchess of Cambridge, waves during a visit to Latimer Square in Christchurch, New Zealand.

'Gone Girl' tops box office for second weekend

By **SANDY COHEN**
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Four new films couldn't catch "Gone Girl" at theaters this weekend.

The Fox thriller starring Ben Affleck as a man whose wife goes missing is poised to top the box office for a second week with \$26.8 million in ticket sales, according to studio estimates Sunday.

Also starring Rosamund Pike, "Gone Girl" is based on the best-selling novel by Gillian Flynn, who adapted her book for the screen.

"There's a mystery that's surrounding this movie," said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for box-office tracker Rentrak. "To have an adult drama like this hold up so well for two weekends in a row is really unusual."

Universal's "Dracula Untold" opened in second place

with \$23.4 million. The Disney family romp, "Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day," debuted in third with \$19.1 million.

Two Warner Bros. films round out the top five. The horror "Annabelle" claimed fourth place in its second week of release with \$16.3 million, followed by the Robert Downey Jr.-Robert Duvall drama, "The Judge," which debuted with \$13.3 million.

Lionsgate's erotic thriller "Addicted" opened in seventh

place with \$7.6 million.

The diversity of choices at theaters is making for robust post-summer ticket sales, Dergarabedian said: "Were making up a lot of ground after a summer season that was down 15 percent."

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Rentrak. Where available, the latest international numbers are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

1. "Gone Girl," \$26.8 million (\$27 million international).	\$2.9 million.
2. "Dracula Untold," \$23.4 million (\$33.9 million international).	Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at international theaters (excluding the U.S. and Canada), according to Rentrak:
3. "Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day," \$19.1 million (\$2.8 million international).	1. "Dracula Untold," \$33.9 million.
4. "Annabelle," \$16.3 million (\$27 million international).	2. "Guardians of the Galaxy," \$28 million.
5. "The Judge," \$13.3 million (\$1.6 million international).	3. (tie) "Gone Girl," \$27 million. (tie) "Annabelle," \$27 million.
6. "The Equalizer," \$9.7 million (\$11.5 million international).	5. "The Maze Runner," \$13.7 million.
7. "Addicted," \$7.6 million.	6. "Breakup Buddies," \$13 million.
8. "The Maze Runner," \$7.5 million (\$13.7 million international).	7. "The Equalizer," \$11.5 million.
9. "The Boxtrolls," \$6.6 million (\$3.6 million international).	8. (tie) "One Direction: Where We Are," \$5 million. (tie) "My Love, My Bride," \$5 million.
10. "Meet the Mormons,"	10. "Bang Bang," \$4.7 million.

Esquire names Penelope Cruz 'sexiest woman alive'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Penelope Cruz is Esquire's "sexiest woman alive."

Cruz is the 11th woman to be given the title by the magazine. Previous honorees include Angelina Jolie, Halle Berry, Rihanna, Charlize Theron and Scarlett Johansson.

The "Vicky Cristina Barcelona" and "Vanilla Sky" actress tells Esquire that she had

"an attraction to drama" in her teens and 20s but "could not be less interested now."

Cruz is keeping quiet about her personal life. She declined to comment to the magazine about her actor husband, Javier Bardem, as well as their two children. She says, "That is for us."

The actress will next be seen in the Spanish-language film

"Ma Ma" and in "Grimsby" with Sacha Baron Cohen.

The November issue of Esquire will be on newsstands Oct. 21.

This image released by Esquire shows actress Penelope Cruz on the November 2014 cover of "Esquire" magazine. The magazine has named Cruz The Sexiest Woman Alive for 2014.



Lauren Bacall's art, jewelry heading to New York auction

NEW YORK (AP)—Lauren Bacall's art, jewelry and furniture will be auctioned in New York.

Her estate is selling hundreds of items that once filled her three homes. Bonhams auction house estimates they will bring \$3 million.

The film and theater legend died in New York City in August at age 89.

Bonhams says two Henry Moore sculptures from the collection will be offered during its impressionist and modern art sale in November.

Bacall was a big fan of Moore's work. Six more of his sculptures will be sold in March, with about 700 other lots. They include tribal art and paintings by Pablo Picasso, Joan Miro, Alexander Calder and others.

They once decorated her homes in Los Angeles, Amagansett, Long Island, and the famed Dakota apartment building in Manhattan.

Family reports actress Misty Upham missing



In this May 17, 2013 file photo, actress Misty Upham arrives for the screening of the film Jimmy P.: Psychotherapy of a Plains Indian, at the 66th international film festival, in Cannes, southern France.

SEATTLE (AP)—Police in Washington state say an actress known for her roles in "August: Osage County," "Frozen River" and "Django Unchained" is missing.

The Seattle Times reports that 32-year-old Misty Upham hasn't been heard from or seen for the past week.

Officials at the Auburn Po-

lice Department say the Native American actress was staying at a family member's apartment on the Muckleshoot reservation near Auburn. Her father filed a missing persons report on Monday.

Cmdr. Steve Stocker says Upham is not considered endangered. He acknowledges that her family is concerned about her and so are the police, but her disappearance is not suspicious.

In a statement to the media on Friday, Upham's father Charles wrote that she has a medical condition that has the family concerned.

BBC host cleared of suspicion of sex offenses

LONDON (AP)—British prosecutors say veteran BBC radio and TV host Paul Gambaccini will not face charges after a lengthy investigation into alleged sexual offenses.

Prosecutors said Friday there was insufficient evidence to bring a case against the 65-year-old Gambaccini.

The prominent broadcaster has maintained his innocence since he was arrested last year. He has worked at BBC for more than four decades and become one of Britain's

best-known music presenters.

Gambaccini released a statement saying he would not discuss the "trauma" he had been "unjustly subjected to" following his arrest. He said he was grateful for public support he had received and indicated he would shortly return to work.

Gambaccini was one of more than a dozen people arrested following the abuse scandal surrounding the late BBC broadcaster Jimmy Savile, who investigators say abused hundreds.

'Walking Dead' mullet has its own fan base

NEW YORK (AP)—Josh McDermitt says "Walking Dead" fans may like his character, Eugene Porter, but when it comes to his hairstyle—that's the real talker.

"Everybody wants to know about the mullet," says McDermitt. "They want to take pictures with the mullet and not me."

McDermitt says it takes about an hour and some hair extensions to get the "iconic" hairdo just right.

"Because we're filming

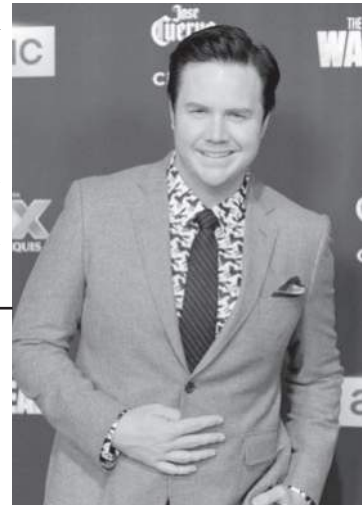
in Georgia. It's hot. It's humid. There's bugs and they make jokes. They say, 'If you're ever tired, if you're ever thirsty just go to the mullet, drink from the 'Mullet of Life,'" the actor says. "It's so disgusting."

McDermitt isn't spilling much about what happens when the show returns at 9 p.m. EDT Sunday, Oct. 12, but he does say this season viewers will learn the back stories of Eugene, Sgt. Abraham Ford (Michael Cudlitz) and Rosita Espinosa (Christian Serratos).

He also says the season opens with the characters fighting for their lives and describes the tone as "intense" and "dark."

"It's wild and there's a feral quality to it," McDermitt says. "The whole season is just full throttle. It doesn't let up."

In this Oct. 2, 2014 file photo, Josh McDermitt, a cast member in the television series "The Walking Dead," poses at a special screening for season five of the show in Universal City, Calif.



Transgender ex-husband is embarrassment to his sons

DEAR ABBY: After 10 years of marriage, my now ex-husband told me he is transgender. He isn't taking hormones, but he makes no attempt to hide his feminine dressing, makeup and wigs from our 6- and 9-year-old sons. They understand little of their dad's new life, other than that their dad likes "girl stuff." They often tell me they are embarrassed being with their dad in public when he has his nails painted or is wearing female clothing.

I have tried talking to my ex about this, but he becomes resentful when I bring it up. He feels he can do whatever he wants regardless of how he embarrasses our sons. Do you think I could take him to court to have an order put in place that he not dress like that when he has our children?

NEEDS TO KNOW IN NEW YORK

DEAR NEEDS TO KNOW: You could discuss it with your divorce lawyer, but I don't think it would work. It would be much better if you asked your ex to explain to his boys the reason he's dressing in female attire so they can understand it. Your husband is not going to change, so they are going to have to interact with him until they are quite a bit older.

DEAR ABBY: Our nephew, whom we raised, has offered my husband and me a lovely home to live in during our "senior years." We are both in our 70s, live on Social Security, and I am physically unable to do much of anything, so our nephew has also

offered us a weekly gardener and a house cleaner twice a month.

Abby, how are we ever going to be able to repay his generosity? My children are not in a position to offer us much help, but they plan to be around and help with additions to the house, painting and things like that. How can I repay them for the labor they're going to expend? I'm so grateful to all of them and feel helpless to let them know how I feel.

SO GRATEFUL IN ROMNEY, W.VA.

DEAR SO GRATEFUL: You have obviously been a wonderful parent to your children and the nephew you raised like a son. Now it's time for them to repay YOU, so please relax and accept it. Because you want to give them something, consider assembling family albums for each of them or a cookbook containing some of your special recipes. I am sure that receiving such treasures along with your thanks and your love will be compensation enough.

DEAR ABBY: I have an 11-year-old daughter who was diagnosed with severe ADHD and anxiety at the age of 7. She is receiving treatment for her condition.

My problem is, I don't know how to cope with her and her condition. I get impatient and frustrated when I have to continually repeat myself because she's not doing what she has to do. I'm afraid I may have hurt her by lashing out at her in anger, and I catch myself yelling and screaming more than hugging and prais-

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



ing. I need to find help and resources to educate me and provide support for this very real condition.

IN ADHD TURMOIL

DEAR IN TURMOIL: A place to start would be to discuss your concerns with the doctor or therapist who has been treating your daughter. Your feelings are not unusual, and he or she may be able to direct you to a parent support group in your area.

If that's not possible, go online and search "support groups for parents of children with ADHD." You will find many pages of resources—so many that it's not possible to list all of them here.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

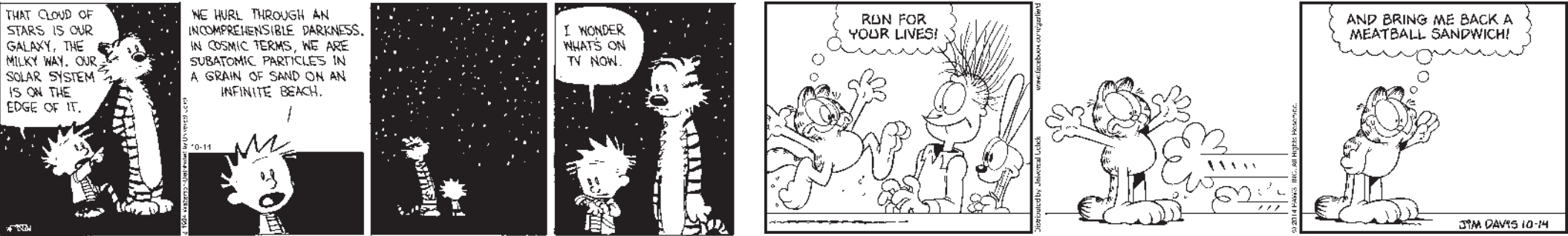
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

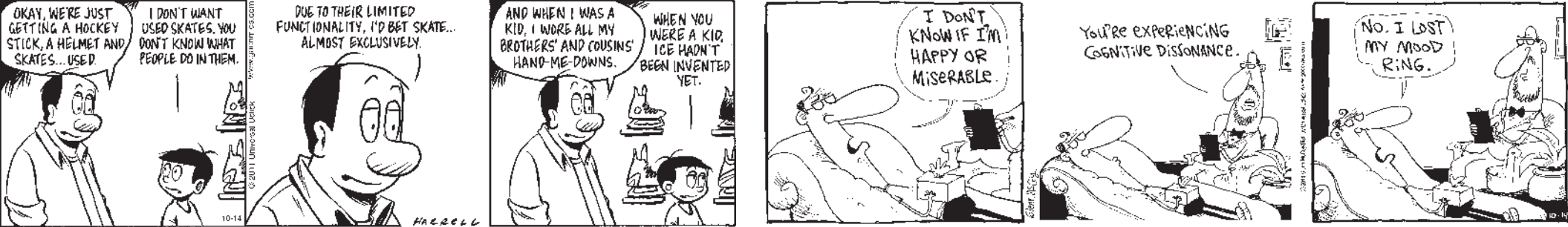


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Tosses in
5 Not at all moist
8 Jack and Jill's terrain
12 Distort
13 Fish eggs
14 Stage award
15 Hebrew month
16 Sierra Nevada park
18 Meditation surface
20 "Unsafe at Any Speed" author
21 Marry
22 Leprechauns' dance
23 Handed out hands
26 Alpine warbler
30 Billboards
31 Plead
32 Ostrich's cousin

DOWN

1 Vacationing
2 Pedestal part
3 RuPaul's costuming
4 Take as much space as you can
5 Wood nymph
6 Source for short
7 "Indeed"
8 Tribute
9 Footnote abbr.
10 Lo-cal
11 Lascivious look
17 Author
19 Encountered
22 Trot
23 Rotation duration
24 Tokyo's old name
25 Cleopatra's slayer
26 Nevertheless
27 Michele of "Glee"
28 Type measures
29 Regret
31 Life story, for short
34 Dealership duds
35 Asian nursemaid
36 Barracks bed
37 Braying sound
39 Castle protectors
40 Watchful one
41 Old fogey
42 Stretches (out)
43 Village People hit
44 Top-rated
45 Speck
46 Newspaper page
48 MSN rival

Solution time: 22 mins.

GOAD R P RIPE
ERGO EKE ENID
REAR DEPLETED
MORSEL SAFETY
AXIS PER
DEPLAYED RIOI
DNA MEDEA ORA
FND DCPIORFD
PAW RESI
EPILOG NOISES
DFOLOYGD OIA
AREAEVO SOAR
MUSS TEN ETNA

Yesterday's answer 10-14

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15				16			17			
18				19			20			
			21			22				
23	24	25			26			27	28	29
30				31				32		
33			34	35			36	37		
			38				39			
40	41	42				43			44	45
47					48			49		
50					51			52		
53					54			55		

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5951. 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Stacy Keibler, 35; Usher, 36; Natalie Maines, 40; Roger Moore, 87.

Happy Birthday: Don't fold under pressure. Stick to your game plan and put any negativity behind you. Pursue your plans passionately and make unexpected alterations as you go along to bypass any interference you foresee. Create your own opportunities and take full credit for your successes. You can get ahead if you are persistent and believe in your abilities. Your numbers are 1, 5, 13, 21, 26, 31, 45.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Make decisions that will spice up your life and add a little adventure to your day. Spending time with someone you love, starting a new class or visiting a destination you haven't been to before will wake the spirit within you. **

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Communication will help you find solutions to any problem you face with a personal or professional partner. A change regarding an investment will pay off. Don't hesitate to let your imagination wander. Take precautions when dealing with peers. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't be fooled by someone's vague response to your questions. Either someone is on your team or not. Focus on the people who give back and are charged up by the plans you have and the options you offer. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Look for greater stability by being original and progressive regarding the changes that

need to be made. If you continue to spin your wheels, nothing will get done. Size up your situation and make your move. Don't let an uncertain relationship dictate your decision. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Spontaneity will lead to fun and games. Enjoy putting your best foot forward and embracing any playful challenge that comes your way. Love is in the stars and romance will improve your personal life. A change will be welcome. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Keep your private affairs a secret and you will avoid an emotional situation that can hinder your job prospects. Anger solves nothing, but getting your chores out of the way will ease discord. A change in your finances must be handled with care. ****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't let emotions ruin your day. Make positive changes that will help keep the peace. Change may be required, but it's the way you go about it that will make the difference. Being sympathetic will help you win favors. **

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Check out different lifestyle choices and make the choice that intrigues you the most. Keep your plans a secret if you suspect someone will interfere. Once you have everything in place, it will difficult for anyone to stand in your way. *****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Put more thought and effort into your work and getting ahead and you will find a way to help your assets grow and job prospects

EUGENIA LAST
THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY
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open up. Love is on the rise and a change of heart will lead to an interesting encounter. ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Keep your distance from anyone who appears to be unpredictable. You are best to protect your reputation, your ideas and your emotional well-being. Focus on making unusual changes to the way you do your work and you will stabilize your position. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Contracts, settlements and medical and financial matters can all be addressed in a timely and effective manner. You stand to get ahead if you don't let your emotions get in the way. Look, see and do. Love is in the stars. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't make changes, but accept the inevitable and protect your position, reputation and your assets. Refuse to get into a no-win situation with someone looking for a fight. Look inward and focus on self-improvement. *****

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, ambitious and creative. You are entertaining and intelligent.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter](https://twitter.com/eugenialast)/[facebook](https://facebook.com/eugenialast)/[linkedin](https://linkedin.com/company/eugenialast).

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

	2			5	4		1			
5				1			4		6	
								9		
						9			5	
2	8			3				4	1	
3			7							
	7									
1		9		7						2
	4		1	8				3		

Difficulty Level ★★ 10/14
©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

2	9	8	1	4	3	6	5	7
4	6	3	7	2	5	8	1	9
7	1	5	9	8	6	3	2	4
3	5	7	4	6	2	1	9	8
6	8	9	5	7	1	2	4	3
1	2	4	3	9	8	5	7	6
8	4	1	6	5	7	9	3	2
9	3	2	8	1	4	7	6	5
5	7	6	2	3	9	4	8	1

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

WHY KNOW? Solution: 5 letters

F	E	T	I	N	K	P	T	S	S	L	I	N	G	C
T	R	E	P	O	R	D	M	U	E	S	O	O	L	L
N	I	A	D	Y	A	A	R	U	A	B	I	O	N	O
P	W	B	C	E	E	E	Y	A	B	T	P	E	P	S
N	I	E	R	S	T	E	U	I	W	R	N	N	I	E
O	N	H	S	E	R	A	R	N	O	N	F	I	N	D
I	T	G	S	A	A	E	C	T	D	E	P	W	O	P
S	E	N	U	R	T	K	U	I	E	O	G	T	I	P
N	R	Q	E	S	O	B	D	R	L	N	N	E	T	H
E	S	W	U	M	E	R	D	N	I	P	C	E	A	H
T	E	L	I	R	A	E	R	R	O	E	M	I	R	C
S	C	R	A	D	M	N	T	E	C	M	R	O	O	N
A	T	N	L	M	E	S	R	S	T	F	A	R	C	U
F	C	O	A	R	E	D	R	O	S	I	D	I	E	B
E	H	J	D	W	O	R	C	H	B	R	A	I	D	S

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Braids, Break, Bump, Bunch, Closed, Cluster, Coiled, Complicated, Crafts, Crowd, Decoration, Diamond, Disorder, Drawn, Error, Fasten, Hair, Hold, Hose, Intersect, Jammed, Knit, Loop, Loose, Ornament, Piece, Point, Protuberance, Reef, Ribbon, Rope, Scarf, Seams, Sewn, Ship, Sling, Slip, Square, String, Sure, Taut, Tension, Thread, Trim, Twine, Undone, Wide, Wire, Yarn
Yesterday's Answer: Thriller
The WONDERWORD MILLENNIUM SERIES #2 is here for the holidays! Purchase online at www.WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480. (Cont. is 100 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

2 Janitor & Cleaner, 2 Sewer & Tailors, 6 Houseworker, 2 Landscaper & Ground-keeping, 2 Waiter & Waitress. \$5.55/hr. Mail resume to MTO Maintenance at P.O. Box 504053 Saipan MP, 96950

APARTMENT FOR RENT

1 Bedroom, 1 Bath, 1 Kitchen. Fully Concrete Security Bars and Deadbolt. Safe quiet area. Ahgaga Rd. Papago. \$400/month including water. Call 256-1219 or 783-5448

House: Rent FREE. Located at Dandan, 2,000 sq.m. 1 Bedroom. Semi Furnished. Utilities not included. Some other condition applies. For more detailed info, please call 287-9080

Job Vacancy Announcement

Huang Shun Corporation dba: Sunshine Garden Restaurant
Is looking for the following positions:

(2) Chef/Cook
Salary: \$8.00 - \$12.00/hour
With knowledge of Korean, Japanese, and Western Cuisine

(1) Waitress/Waiter
Salary: \$6.05/hour
Must have related job experience & preferably someone who speaks Chinese

Interested applicants, pls. visit Hungshun dba Sunshine Garden located behind 360 Revolving Restaurant or call (670) 235-6667/8

MAKE-A-WISH

Visit us at 865 S. Marine Dr.,
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Tel: (671) 649-WISH • Fax: (671) 646-6293
Email: mawguam@ite.net • www.wish.org
Office Hours: 8:30am-5:30pm, M-F daily

Saipan Tribune

O2 Spa
(Formerly known as Thumb Massage)
Job Vacancy Announcement
3 Masseuses
Salary: \$6.05
One(1) year Experience.
Please mail resume to PMB 155 Box 10003, Saipan, MP 96950 or call 285-8018

Bookkeeper/Laborer
Exp. Combined 2 yrs. of computer-based record keeping and ability to work outdoors, as needed, as a construction laborer. Duties include: keeping payroll and tax records, filing, administrative errands, maintaining office equipment in working order. Able to work weekends/evening if needed. Part-time, min. wage. Must have own transportation to work sites, US Citizen preferred. Speak & read Thai language a bonus.
Send resume w/references to OCM LLC, PMB 3602 Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950 by COB Oct. 22, 2014, Police Clearance, drug testing.

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Fina Sisu Terraces
Small 1-BR, 1-BTH. Unit approximately 284 sq.ft. **\$250/month.**
2-BR, 1-BTH. **\$350-\$550/month.** Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted.

Ocean View Terraces
(Navy Hill) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **\$600/month**

Sunset View Terraces
(Navy Hill) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **\$550/month**

Hilltop Condominium*
(San Vicente) Unit approximately 1,024sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 2BTH Apt with private balcony & majestic view. **\$700/month**
Luxury 1BR & 1BTH approximately 600 sq/ft **\$500/month**
***Wi-Fi & nighttime security excluded**

FEATURES:

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Please visit our website at www.saipan-properties.com
Call for an appointment 235-6527/8.

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
JVA No. 14-050 Opening Date: October 08, 2014
Closing Date: October 22, 2014

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation (CHCC) has immediate job opening for:

STAFF NURSE (PART TIME)

Duties: Assesses, implements, evaluates and develops a written nursing plan of care. Evaluates and revises the nursing care plan as necessary to meet the stated goals. Responsible for the admission and discharge of assigned patients. Oversees LPNs, GNs, and NAs. Communicate openly and effectively with members of the health care team, other professionals, patients and family members. Demonstrates current knowledge of the legal and ethical standards of nursing practice and patient care. Participates in QA/QI, and CQI programs. Administers prescribed medications and treatments. Starts intravenous infusion and adds medications to IV fluids as ordered by physician. Responsible for the total nursing care of assigned patients. Must practice safe and sound nursing judgments in providing care for assigned patients. Must be able to prioritize, be flexible, and manage time efficiently to accommodate work flow and variability within the unit. Ensure that Medicare and other US regulatory standards are applied and practiced by nursing professional. Performs as Charge Nurse when assigned. Demonstrates as a preceptor or mentor as needed. Performs other related duties or tasks as needed.

Qualification Requirements: Applicants must at least have an Associate or Degree in Nursing from a recognized/accredited School of Nursing; must have passed NCLEX-RN and licensed to practice nursing in the CNMI by the Commonwealth Board of Nurse Examiners. Two years work experience and must be willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays and weekends. **If holding CW status, must have valid CW for at least six months validity.**

Application: Employment Application may be downloaded at www.chcc.gov.mp and drop off at CHCC Human Resources Office, 1 Lower Navy Hill Road, Navy Hill, Saipan, MP. 96950.

Education and training claimed in the Employment Application **must be** substantiated by diploma, certificate or license and original police clearance. Failure to provide complete application form or the required documents will result in automatic disqualification.

WHATZIT Solution: Pen-name

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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DAY & NIGHT

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OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2014

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THE NMI'S NEXT JERICO
SSS MAKES THE GRADE
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ANEKKA SAKOVICH:
SPORTS ORGANIZER

SPORTS GROUP
SHUNS CULTURE
OF WINNING

TAGA Sports is now on issuu.com/tagasports!

Check out the latest issue and back issues of TAGA Sports, the CNMI's first and premier sports magazine, on issuu.com/tagasports!

Now you won't have to miss a copy of TAGA Sports. Visit issuu.com/tagasports to get your fix on all sports happenings in the CNMI!

To inquire about ad rates or to place an ad, call (670) 235-2440, 235-6397, 235-8747.

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

PSEUDONYM

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Wong homers in 9th; Cards edge Giants



ST. LOUIS (AP)—Kolten Wong and

the St. Louis Cardinals rallied again with their latest postseason power show, tying the NL Championship Series at a game apiece.

After the final party at home plate, reality set in: They might be without Yadier Molina the rest of the way.

Wong hit a leadoff home run in the bottom of the ninth inning and the resilient Cardinals beat the San Francisco Giants 5-4 Sunday night.

The Cardinals came back after losing Molina to a strained oblique muscle in the sixth. The All-Star catcher was getting further tests and manager Mike Matheny said it "didn't look real good."

"We'll wait and see and right now we'll just go ahead and keep celebrating a very tough, hard-fought win. I am real proud at how these guys kept coming," Matheny said.

The best-of-seven series resumes Tuesday night with Game 3 in San Francisco with John Lackey going for St. Louis and Tim Hudson starting for the Giants.

In a back-and-forth game, St. Louis got homers from rookie pinch-hitter Oscar Taveras in the seventh and Matt Adams in the eighth to take a 4-3 lead.

After the Giants tied it on a wild pitch, Wong hit an 0-1 delivery from Sergio Romo for his second big home run this postseason. The rookie's seventh-inning drive was the decisive blow in Game 3 of the NL Division Series against the Los Angeles Dodgers.



AP
St. Louis Cardinals' Kolten Wong is congratulated after hitting a walk off home run during the ninth inning in Game 2 of the National League baseball championship series against the San Francisco Giants Sunday, Oct. 12, 2014, in St. Louis. The Cardinals won, 5-4, to tie the series at 1-1.

play ball in the sixth. Wincing, he gingerly walked off the field.

Adams, whose three-run shot off Clayton Kershaw put St. Louis in front for good in their clinching playoff win over Dodgers, homered off Giants reliever Hunter Strickland.

Gregor Blanco's fourth postseason hit in 31 at-bats put the Giants up 3-2 in the seventh, but Taveras re-tied it in the bottom half with a homer off Jean Machi just inside the right-field foul pole.

Carpenter hit a solo home run off Jake Peavy in the third. Randal Grichuk singled with the bases loaded in the fourth to make it 2-0.

The Giants came back against Lance Lynn.

Meanwhile, Molina made contact and barely budged from the batter's box, hunched over in pain as the San Francisco Giants turned an easy double play.

Cardinals manager Mike Matheny and a trainer came out to meet Molina, who walked gingerly off the field with a strained muscle on his left side.

By the time St. Louis finished celebrating a 5-4 win Sunday night, Cardinals players were turning their attention to the status of their All-Star catcher going forward.

Grinding up and down, not getting any easy pass, so we're all so confident."

It was a rare postseason failure for the reliable San Francisco bullpen, which allowed a home run in each of the final three innings.

"They are the reason we're in this situation, and you give (the Cardinals) credit," manager Bruce Bochy said. "They threw out some good at-bats and we

made a couple of mistakes and they took advantage of them."

The Giants made it 4-all when pinch-runner Matt Duffy dashed home from second base on a two-out wild pitch in the ninth. San Francisco wound up losing for just the second time in its last 14 postseason games.

Seth Maness retired Pablo Sandoval on a comebacker with the bases loaded to end the top of the ninth, and got the win.

Maness came on after closer Trevor Rosenthal couldn't hold a one-run lead. Rosenthal's pitch bounced off the glove off backup catcher Tony Cruz and Duffy, running on a full count, never broke stride and slid home with the tying run.

Molina bent over in pain after a swing and didn't make it out of the batter's box on a double-

Bae wins PGA Tour opener at Silverado

NAPA, Calif. (AP)—Bae Sang-moon set a big goal for the new PGA Tour season. He wants to end it at home in South Korea by playing in the Presidents Cup.

He couldn't have asked for a better start.

Bae won the season-opening Frys.com Open on Sunday by stretching his lead to as many as six shots in the hot sunshine of Napa Valley, leaving plenty of room for a few mistakes that only made it interesting for a short time.

He closed with a 1-over 73 at Silverado, the first player on the PGA Tour since Ben Crane at the St. Jude Classic in June to win with a final round over par. Bae took three putts from the collar of the green on the par-5 18th for a two-shot victory over Steven Bowditch, who had a 67.

"There's always pressure on Sunday because other players behind me are charging, so I tried to maintain my focus and play my own game," Bae said. He really won this tourna-

ment on Saturday afternoon by saving par on the 16th and following with an eagle and a birdie to build a four-shot lead. The only drama in the final round came from the 28-year-old South Korean, who was six shots clear after the 10th hole until a trio of three-putt bogeys - two of them from just off the green - started to bring him back to the field.

The most important shot he hit all day was a chip behind the green on the par-5 16th that settled near the hole for a par to keep his two-shot lead over Bowditch, who had already finished.

"I think it was the hardest chip on today," Bae said. "It was a really, really good up-and-down. If I made bogey on that hole, I think I lose focus next hole. But I hit it really good from off the green."

Ultimately, no one got closer than two shots of Bae, who finished at 15-under 273. Goosen played with Bae

FRYS.COM OPEN

the opening two rounds and knew what he was up against on Sunday.

"He hit the ball very well and his putter was super hot," Goosen said. "I knew he was going to be tough to catch this weekend the way he was striking it. He's not really going to make many mistakes."

Bae made his share, though by then it was too late to matter.

Hunter Mahan, one of four players in the field who were in the Ryder Cup two weeks ago, looked as if he might make a run when he holed out from 91 yards on the 13th hole for eagle to get within two shots of the lead. But he hit a poor chip on the 15th that led to bogey, and he barely got out of the bunker on the par-5 16th that kept him from a birdie.

Mahan closed with a 70 and wound up in five-way tie for third with Retief Goosen, Hideki Matsuyama, Martin Laird and Bryce Molder. Matsuyama finished with two straight bird-

ies, and tied for third for the second straight year at the Frys.com Open.

The Presidents Cup goes to Asia for the first time next year at the Jack Nicklaus Golf Club Korea in Incheon. It will be the biggest golf event ever in South Korea, and Bae would rather not be watching on television.

"I think it's most important to me because it's in Korea next year. It really means a lot," he said. "There's a lot of good golfers in Korea, but I'm really working hard. I really want to play Presidents Cup next year. If I can't play it, I will be really sad."

The Frys.com Open was just the start, however. The last time Bae won in 2013 at the Byron Nelson Championship, he went 36 straight PGA Tour events without so much as a top 10 until winning Sunday.

"The first one was hard, but second one was more difficult," he said. "But now I've got the second one, I think third and fourth will come easy since I have the confidence."

SIDEBAR

Yankees, GM Cashman agree on three-year deal

NEW YORK (AP)—The Yankees have re-signed Brian Cashman to a three-year contract following one of their most disappointing seasons since he became general manager.

Cashman has been New York's GM since 1998, when the Yankees won the World Series in his first season. He has built three more championship teams, most recently in 2009.

Cashman said during a conference call that he wants to "find a way to get our fan base back to enjoying October sooner rather than later."

The 47-year-old Cashman has been in his job longer than every GM in baseball except San Francisco's Brian Sabean and Oakland's Billy Beane.

The Yankees have missed the postseason the last two seasons, the first time they've done that since 1992-93. Now he has to turn around a roster that was one of the lightest hitting in the AL and fix a

rotation that had four of five members spend time on the disabled list.

Alex Rodriguez will return from a yearlong suspension and turn 40 next season. Finding a way to get him to contribute in a lineup with no shortage of DH candidates will be one of his challenges.

As will be finding a shortstop to replace the retired Derek Jeter.

"We're always looking to be better at every spot," Cashman said. "We will be looking at Brendan Ryan and (asking) are there obtainable shortstops above Ryan."

Cashman also addressed the departures of hitting coach Kevin Long and first base coach Mick Kelleher. Long had been the hitting coach since 2007.

"I think he tried everything in his power," Cashman said. "I think Kevin can sleep at night knowing he tried every tool in the toolbox."

Murray leads Cowboys' upset over Seahawks



PHILADELPHIA (AP)—DeMarco Murray scored on a 15-yard run with 3:16 left as the Dallas Cowboys stunned the defending Super Bowl champion Seattle Seahawks 30-23 on Sunday.

Dallas, 5-1 for the first time since 2007, overcame a pair of special teams turnovers to become the first team outside the NFC West to win in Seattle since 2011.

Murray's touchdown run capped a 75-yard drive that saw Tony Romo convert a third-and-20 with a pass to Terrance Williams along the sideline.

Murray had 115 yards on 29 carries to join Jim Brown as the only running backs in NFL history to open a season with six straight 100-yard games. Murray also had six receptions for 31 yards.

Romo was 21 of 32 for 250 yards and two touchdowns without an interception.

Russell Wilson had a 9-yard touchdown run, and Mike Morgan returned a blocked punt 25 yards for a score for Seattle (3-2). Wilson was 14 of 28 for 126 yards and an interception, and was limited to 12 yards on two carries.



Dallas Cowboys running back DeMarco Murray (29) fights off a tackle attempt by New Orleans Saints' Junior Galette (93) during the second half of an NFL football game, Sunday, Sept. 28, 2014, in Arlington, Texas. Murray scored on a 15-yard run in the Cowboys' 30-23 win over the Seattle Seahawks on Sunday.

Broncos 31, Jets 17

In East Rutherford, Peyton Manning connected with Julius Thomas twice and Demaryius Thomas once, leaving the Denver quarterback two shy of Brett Favre's record for career touchdown passes, and the Broncos held on to beat New York.

Manning has 506 touchdown passes, and could tie or break Favre's record next Sunday at home against San Francisco. Manning finished 22 of 33 for 237 yards — a far cry from last week's performance against Arizona, when he passed for a career-high 479 yards with four TDs.

But Manning displayed his methodical best at times in his return to MetLife Stadium, where he and the Broncos (4-1) were blown out by Seattle in the Super Bowl last February.

Demaryius Thomas had 10 catches for 124 yards, and Ronnie Hillman ran for 100 yards on 24 carries.

The Jets (1-5) had a chance to tie when they got the ball deep in their own territory with less than a minute left. But after a sack put the ball at the 1, Geno Smith's pass was intercepted by Aqib Talib, who returned it 22 yards for a sealing touchdown that sent New York to its fifth straight loss.

The struggling Smith, looking to keep his starting job, was 23 of 43 for 190 yards and touchdown passes to Jace Amaro and Eric Decker, with the one interception.

Patriots 37, Bills 22

In Orchard Park, Tom Brady threw four touchdown passes and had his 60th 300-yard game to

lead New England past Buffalo.

Brandon LaFell had two touchdown catches, including a 56-yarder, and the Patriots forced three turnovers that resulted in 13 points in the second quarter.

Brady finished 27 of 37 for 361 yards to spoil the Bills' first game under new owners Terry and Kim Pegula. Brady is 23-2 against AFC East rival Buffalo with the Patriots (4-2).

Kyle Orton went 24 of 38 for 299 yards with two touchdowns, an interception and a lost fumble in his second start for Buffalo (3-3) since replacing EJ Manuel.

Packers 27, Dolphins 24

In Miami, Aaron Rodgers threw a 4-yard touchdown pass to Andrew Quarless with 3 seconds left to lift Green Bay past Miami.

Green Bay twice gave up leads and trailed 24-17 before Rodgers directed a 68-yard drive for a field goal with 4:09 to go. The Packers (4-2) quickly forced a punt to start at their 40 with 2:04 left, and Rodgers hit Jordy Nelson on fourth-and-10 for 18 yards to keep the winning drive alive.

Rodgers finished with three touchdown passes and 264 yards while committing no turnovers.

The Packers earned their third consecutive victory and won in Miami for only the second time ever. The Dolphins (2-3) lost despite the return of six starters who had missed playing time.

Eagles 27, Giants 0

In Philadelphia, Nick Foles threw two touchdown passes and LeSe-

an McCoy had a season-high 149 yards rushing as the Philadelphia Eagles beat New York for its first shutout in 18 years.

A rough night for the Giants (3-3) became worse when wide receiver Victor Cruz tore the patellar tendon his right knee while leaping for a pass on fourth down from the Eagles 3 in the third quarter. Cruz was crying and holding his hands to his face as he was carted off the field with an injury that's expected to end his season.

Wearing all-black uniforms for the first time in franchise history, the Eagles (5-1) stayed tied with Dallas (5-1) for the lead in the NFC East. They hadn't shut out an opponent since a 24-0 win over the Giants on Dec. 1, 1996, at old Veterans Stadium.

The defense harassed and pressured Eli Manning often, sacking him six times and preventing New York's upstart offense from getting on track.

Cardinals 30, Redskins 20

In Glendale, Carson Palmer returned from a five-week absence to throw two touchdown passes, and Arizona beat Washington to take the sole NFC West lead.

Larry Fitzgerald caught six passes for a season-high 98 yards and his first touchdown of the season to help the Cardinals (4-1) bounce back from a 41-20 drubbing at Denver.

Kirk Cousins was 24 for 38 for 354 yards, including a 64-yard touchdown pass to DeSean Jackson for the Redskins (1-5), but threw three fourth-quarter interceptions. Washington has lost four straight and 13 of 14.

Palmer had not played since damaging a nerve in his throw-

ing shoulder in the season-opening win over San Diego and was not announced as the starter until just before kickoff. Palmer completed 28 of 44 for 250 yards with no interceptions. The Cardinals have not thrown an interception this season.

Arizona's Chandler Catanzaro kicked field goals of 33, 49 and 37 yards.

Chargers 31, Raiders 28

In Oakland, Branden Oliver scored on a 1-yard run with 1:56 to play and San Diego spoiled interim coach Tony Sparano's Oakland debut.

Philip Rivers threw three touchdown passes and engineered the winning drive to give San Diego (5-1) its fifth straight win and send Oakland (0-5) to its 11th straight loss.

Rookie Derek Carr threw four touchdown passes for the Raiders and gave them a 28-21 lead on a 6-yard throw to Andre Holmes with 10:01 to play. But Rivers answered with a pair of scoring drives, and Carr's pass was intercepted by rookie Jason Verrett with 1:13 to play.

Sparano took over for the fired Dennis Allen.

Panthers 37, Bengals 37

In Cincinnati, the Bengals' Mike Nugent missed a 36-yard field goal attempt on the final play of overtime, and the Bengals and Carolina played to the NFL's first tie this season.

Nothing new about the Bengals tying at home. They finished 13-13 with Philadelphia in their last overtime game at Paul Brown Stadium in 2008.

Nugent made a 42-yard field goal that put Cincinnati (3-1-1)

up after the opening drive of overtime. Carolina (3-2-1) tied it on Graham Gano's 36-yarder with 2:19 left.

Andy Dalton was nearly perfect in overtime, going 8 for 9 for 87 yards with one throwaway. He led the Bengals into range to win it, but Nugent sliced the kick wide right.

Titans 16, Jaguars 14

In Nashville, Sammie Hill blocked a field goal attempt in the final seconds, and Tennessee held off winless Jacksonville to snap a four-game losing streak.

Jackie Battle ran for a touchdown, and Ryan Succop kicked three field goals to help the Titans (2-4) bounce back after blowing the biggest lead ever by a home team in the regular season in a loss to Cleveland.

Jurrell Casey had two of Tennessee's six sacks. The Titans forced two turnovers as they won their first game at home this season — only their second here in nine games.

The Jaguars (0-6) scored with 37 seconds left when Blake Bortles found Clay Harbor for a 20-yard TD strike. They recovered the onside kick, but Hill got his right fingers on Josh Scobee's 55-yard field goal attempt.

Browns 31, Steelers 10

In Cleveland, Brian Hoyer passed for 217 yards and pulled off a rarity for a Cleveland quarterback, leading the Browns to rout over Ben Roethlisberger and rival Pittsburgh.

Hoyer threw a 51-yard touchdown pass to Jordan Cameron and improved to 6-2 as Cleveland's starter as the surprising Browns (3-2) beat the Steelers

for the third time in 23 games. Cleveland hadn't beaten Pittsburgh so badly since a 51-0 victory in 1989.

Ben Tate had two rushing TDs and rookie Isaiah Crowell added another one as the Browns opened a 21-3 lead in the first half and rolled to the easy win a week after staging the largest comeback in NFL history by a road team against Tennessee.

Bears 27, Falcons 13

In Atlanta, Jay Cutler threw for 381 yards and a touchdown, Matt Forte ran for a couple of second-half scores, and Chicago picked up another road victory by beating Atlanta.

Chicago (3-3) has won three of four away from Soldier Field this season, though there were so many Bears fans at the Georgia Dome that it seemed almost like a neutral site.

After the Falcons (2-4) rallied from a 13-3 halftime deficit to tie it late in the third quarter, the Bears bounced back to hand Atlanta its third straight loss. Cutler unleashed a towering pass to Alshon Jeffery that went for 74 yards. On the next play, Forte scored on a 6-yard run.

The Falcons went three-and-out, and Chicago finished them off with a 15-play, 87-yard drive. Forte capped it with a 9-yard scoring burst up the middle.

Lions 17, Vikings 3

In Minneapolis, Tahir Whitehead intercepted two of Teddy Bridgewater's passes, and Joique Bell put the game away with a fourth-quarter touchdown run in Detroit's victory over Minnesota.

With Calvin Johnson and Reggie Bush missing, the Lions played a low-risk game. But their defense made another case for top billing in the league. Ziggy Ansah had 2 1/2 of Detroit's eight sacks.

Bridgewater threw three interceptions in his second career start for the Vikings (2-4).

The biggest problem for Detroit (4-2) was two more missed field goal attempts, through Matt Prater did make one from 52 yards in his Lions debut. Detroit won at Minnesota for only the second time in its last 17 trips.

Ravens 48, Buccaneers 17

In Tampa Bay, Joe Flacco threw for 306 yards and five touchdowns to help Baltimore beat Tampa Bay.

Baltimore (4-2) scored on six straight possessions to begin the game, with Flacco throwing touchdown passes on the first five. Torrey Smith caught the first two, and Kamar Aiken, Michael Campanaro and Steve Smith had the others as the Ravens rebounded from a road loss to Indianapolis.

Tampa Bay (1-5) was embarrassed for the second time in six games under first-year coach Lovie Smith. The Bucs fell 56-14 at Atlanta on Sept. 18.

Durant has broken foot, out 6-8 weeks



OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—Kevin Durant has a fractured foot and the NBA's MVP seems likely to be sidelined for at least the start of the season.

The Oklahoma City Thunder on Sunday said Durant informed the team of "discomfort" in his right foot after practice a day earlier. He underwent tests and the team said in a statement he was diagnosed with a "Jones" fracture - a broken bone at the base of the small toe. It's unclear how the injury happened.

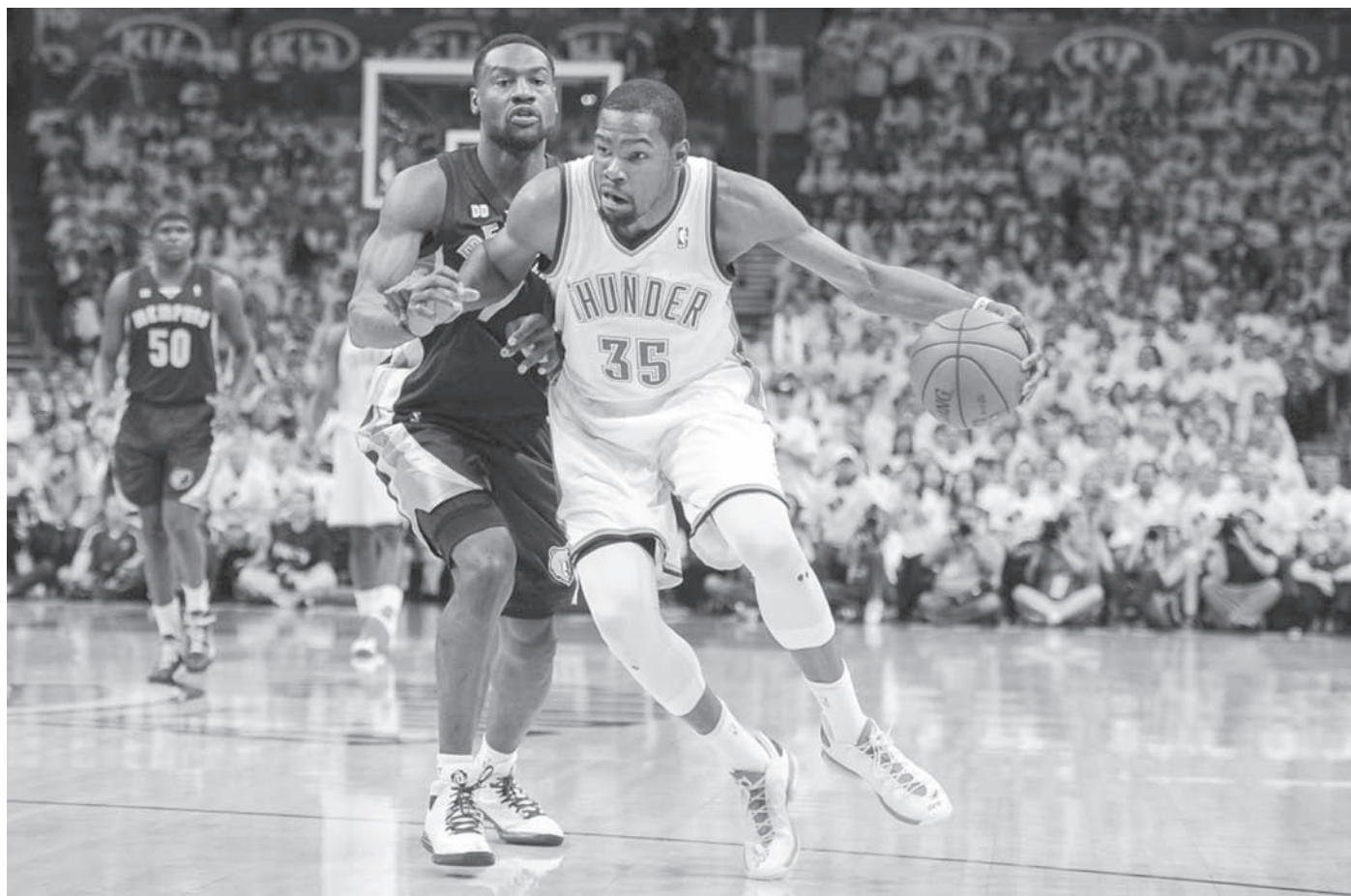
The Thunder said traditional treatment requires surgery, and recent NBA cases have resulted in a return to play in six to eight weeks.

"We are in the process of collaboratively evaluating the most appropriate next steps with Kevin, his representatives, and Thunder medical personnel," general manager Sam Presti said. "Until a course of action is determined, we are unable to provide a timeline specific to Kevin's case."

Presti was to discuss the injury at a news conference Sunday.

The Thunder open their season Oct. 29 at Portland. A six-week absence could have Durant back for the start of December, which would allow him to play about 65 games.

Durant won the scoring title last season, collected his first MVP award and led the Thunder to the Western Conference finals. He skipped playing for the U.S. national team in this summer's Basketball World Cup so he could get additional rest. He played in two preseason games before complaining of pain.



Oklahoma Thunder's Kevin Durant, right, is tightly guarded by Memphis Grizzlies' Tony Allen during last season's NBA game.

The Thunder were forced to play for nearly two months last season without their other All-Star, Russell Westbrook, because of a knee injury, but remained among the West's best because of Durant's brilliance.

He averaged 32 points, 7.4 points and 5.5 assists and was an overwhelming winner of MVP honors, ending LeBron James' bid for a third straight. Durant had a run of 41 consecutive games with at least 25 points, the third-longest streak in NBA history.

He has won four of the last five scoring titles, and was at his best during Westbrook's

absence from late December through the All-Star break, averaging 35 points and 6.3 assists as the Thunder went 20-7.

Now it will be up to Westbrook to raise his game while Durant is sidelined, or the Thunder risk falling behind quickly in the powerful West.

Durant has been among the NBA's most durable players in recent years, missing just one game in each of the last two seasons and playing in all 66 during the lockout-shortened 2011-12 campaign, when Oklahoma City lost to Miami in the NBA Finals. He sought a break from

his heavy workload this summer, dropping out of his commitment to the U.S. after taking part in the first week of their training camp.

Now he will sit down again.

Meanwhile, Kentavious Caldwell-Pope exited in the third quarter with a left knee sprain, as the Detroit Pistons fell to the Washington Wizards 91-89 on Sunday.

Caldwell-Pope, a second-year guard out of Georgia, fell underneath Washington's basket and needed assistance getting to the locker room. He did not return after scoring 12 points in 24 minutes.

Pistons coach Stan Van Gundy said Caldwell-Pope will be looked at when the team returns to Detroit.

"We'll re-evaluate it going forward," Van Gundy said. "We'll get him an MRI and we'll go from there, see what's going on."

Caldwell-Pope is averaging 16.7 points through Detroit's first three preseason games after scoring 5.9 per game in his 2013 rookie season. He joins Will Bynum (right hamstring) and Jodie Meeks (back spasms) as Pistons guards dealing with injuries.

"It happens, we'll see what they say with (Caldwell-Pope)

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Suzuki posted the Top 3 fastest times en route to earning PBTs. Dangol clocked in at 45.39 seconds, while Thompson and Suzuki tallied 52.39 and 58.10 seconds, respectively. Other swimmers who bagged PBTs in the event were Tsunami Saipan's Shaunalyn Babauta (1:07.55) and SSC's Savita Sikkell (1:15.43).

In the girls 9 to 10 and 11 to 12 age groups, six notched PBTs. The list includes Tsunami Saipan's Ayumi Obligacio (1:14.50), Natsugi Nagata

(58.95 seconds), Sophia Gauran (42.44 seconds), Aika Wanatabe (43.37 seconds), and Megumi Yoshino (48.92 seconds), and SSC's Ayaka Sato (1:07.35).

In the boys U8 division, Hans Xu had the fastest PBT with his 44.92 seconds, while Tsunami Saipan's Isaiah Aleksenko and Arman Rechucher broke the one-minute barrier after logging 51.68 and 57.93 seconds, respectively. SSC's Jefferey Sheu (1:04.54) and Wataru Kadokura (1:20.98) were the other PBT getters in the division.

In the boys 9 to 10 age group, Juhn Tenorio's 43.44 seconds surpass his old PBT of 43.63

seconds, while fellow Tsunami Saipan bet Kenta Tomie did the same after posting 1:06.25 (from 1:12.53). In the 11 to 12 division, the Top 3 finishers in the race also achieved PBTs. Tsunami Saipan's Mark Maestro came in first with his 38.35 seconds, followed by SSC's Taiga Sato (41.88 seconds) and Tsunami Saipan's Nelson Battalones (43.03 seconds).

Battalones eclipsed his old PBT (1:29.69), too in the 100m freestyle after clocking in at 1:19.66, while SSC's David Boyer and Tsunami Saipan's Takumi Sugie also got PBTS in the same event in their respective age groups.

Sugie competed in the 15 to 16 division and timed in at 1:00.67, about two seconds faster than his previous PBT of 1:02.58, while Boyer chopped off more than two seconds from his old PBT after recording 1:09.82 (from 1:12.25) in the 13 to 14 age group.

In the boys U8, Kadokura shaved off more than one minute from his PBT with his 2:18.37 (from 2:19.87), while Tsunami Saipan's Anthony Camacho-Deleon Guerrero and SSC's Richard Villagomez also set PBT after registering 1:16.90 and 1:37.23, respectively.

In the girls division, Tsunami Saipan's Angel De Jesus swam

in the 15 to 16 age group and earned a PBT (1:06.50), while her teammates Sophia Gauran (1:13.49) and Kyona Rivera (1:18.61) got the same feat in the 11 to 12 category. Jin Ju Thompson also joined the 11 to 12 race and tallied 1:23.70, more than four seconds faster than her old PBT (1:27.90). Thompson's fellow SSC member Susana Villagomez had a bigger drop, as the latter clocked in at 2:03.95 (from 2:13.69) in the 9 to 10 race.

Meanwhile, another SSC bet, Coume Kaga, hit a PBT in the 400m freestyle after touching the wall at the 6:40.39 mark. Her old PBT was 6:59.69.

place with DYS, followed by Dough Boys (1-0), Rollers A (1-1), Chalan Kanoa Saints (1-1) Ol'Aces (1-2), CNMI Girls Nationals (0-2), and Rollers B (0-3). Tinian 62 - Mendoza 14, Babauta 11, Sablan 8, San Nicolas 7, De Leon 7, Borja 7, Epity 2, Cruz 2, Nabors 2.

KFC 51 - Francisco 16, Javier 8, Cruz 8, Kwon 8, Borromeo 4, Dancoe 4, Ogasawara 2.

Scoring by quarters: 16-15, 30-30, 46-38, 62-51.

TINIAN

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doza's lackluster performance, as the former scored all his 11 points in the first half, which ended in a deadlock, 30-all.

Wilfredo Francisco matched Babauta's production in the first 20 minutes of the match to help KFC tie the game after facing a one-point deficit at the conclusion of the opening period, 15-

16. Francisco fired 7 points in the first frame and tallied KFC's last 5 markers in the second quarter for a strong first-half showing.

Francisco failed to sustain his momentum in the second half, as he went scoreless in the third period, while Mendoza finally took care of business for Tinian, delivering 8 points, including the three straight baskets that helped his team build an 8-point lead, 46-38, entering the final frame.

Mendoza then hit Tinian's

first basket in the fourth quarter before cooling down and letting Ignacio Borja take over. Borja was scoreless in the first three quarters before registering five consecutive points early in the payoff frame and making Tinian's last field goal in the game. He, Mike San Nicolas and Karlo De Leon had 7 points each to back up Babauta and Mendoza. Paka Sablan contributed 8 points, while Jarron Epity, K.J. Nabors, and Dalchelbai Cruz

added 2 markers apiece to complete Tinian's box score.

Francisco led KFC with his 16 points, ending his second-half silence by nailing the team's last two baskets. He was the lone KFC player post twin digits, as Jun Javier, Jethro Cruz, and Dixon Kwon recorded only 8 points each.

With Tinian winning over KFC, the former took the solo lead in the nine-team field. KFC dropped to a share of second

when they get it done," Van Gundy said. "You go through these things, everybody goes through them."

John Wall led the Wizards (3-1) with 15 points in their preseason home opener and Marcin Gortat added 11 points and 11 rebounds. Kevin Seraphin scored 14, including the go-ahead dunk to make it 90-89 with 5.7 seconds remaining.

Xavier Silas scored 10 points for Washington, one of several guards playing more minutes due to Bradley Beal's injury. Beal was expected to undergo surgery Sunday for the non-displaced fracture in his left wrist that he suffered Friday at Charlotte.

Andre Drummond led the Pistons (2-1) with 21 points, making all nine of his shots. Greg Monroe added 17 points and 10 rebounds.

OAA

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recent years. The product has improved and the way of laying it down and ensuring that bubbles don't form has improved. There is also the maintenance program that you have to follow to ensure that you get a long life from your track," added Gardner.

OAA vice president Trevor Spittle and treasurer Titana Juventin joined Mullins, Gardner, and Northern Marianas Athletics officials in inspecting the decades-old track.

"Since this track is being used by other sports, for running and cross training, it will be very good if all sports associations on Saipan work together to make sure the facility gets an upgrade," said Mullins.

"OAA doesn't have the resources to be able to provide monetary support right now to resurface the track. But we have a lot of discussion today about the process that they will be following to make sure the track is properly repaired and replaced," added Gardner.

Mullins said that OAA would keep a close watch on the repairs to be done on the Oleai Sports Complex's track facility.

"I won't call it renovating the track facility but rather rejuvenating it for the athletes use. With everyone's help, upgrading the track is a possible in a very short period of time," she said. "OAA will keep an eye on the maintenance upgrade, so we can consider if we can come back here to hold other events in the near future."

Gardner said that the resurfacing of the track could give the facility another 10 to 15-year lifespan.

"Decisions will be made about funding that is available sometime in November and as soon as the dry season comes around, work will start. I will be pleased to see a new track here in the next 6 to 8 months," Gardner said.

CUC bounces back to gain second win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Commonwealth Utilities, Corp. regained its bearings quickly after nosing out Top Development, Inc., 78-77, in the curtain-raiser in the 2014 JP World Corp. Customer Appreciation Basketball League last Friday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

After bowing to McDonald's last Oct. 6, CUC (2-1) averted back-to-back setbacks, following its one-point victory over the slumping Top Development, which is still winless in three games. George Poquiz lifted CUC to the close win after hitting three free throws in the homestretch.

Poquiz's three clutch charities in the closing seconds of the match gave CUC a 4-point cushion, 78-74. Top Development's Sefich Lorenzo then canned a triple from the left corner to cut the deficit to one, but CUC hung on tight as it melted down the clock and avoided getting fouled in the dying seconds to keep the slim lead and the win.

Poquiz finished the nip-and-tuck match with 14 points and was among the four CUC players to hit double figures. Iramk Simada and Andrew Masga had 16 markers apiece, while James Benavente chipped in 13.

Simada posted 10 of his total points in the fourth quarter after going scoreless in the first half. His three-point shooting kept



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Commonwealth Utilities, Corp.'s James Benavente pulls up for a fadeaway jumper against a Docomo Pacific defender during an earlier game in the JP World caging at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

CUC afloat in the fourth, as he knocked down two baskets from downtown and back-to-back two-point field goals past the halfway mark of the final canto. Masga and Benavente also hit timely baskets in the fourth period.

Earlier in the first quarter, Masga and Benavente combined for 8 of CUC's 14 points to force a standoff. Top Development then broke the tie in the second period, 32-30, with Allen Reyes and Raymond Velasco anchoring the team's offense.

Velasco and Reyes were still the go-to-guys for Top Development in the third period, while CUC spread the wealth and was rewarded with a 54-48 advantage. Four CUC players made at least two baskets apiece in the third frame, while

two others also hit the board.

Despite losing the lead, Top Development remained in contention with Velasco making repeated trips to the foul line early in the fourth quarter and nailing several charities. However, steady free throw shooting in the closing seconds of the tight match also bailed CUC out with Poquiz convert-

ing three shots from the stripe.

CUC 78 – Simada 16, Masga 16, Poquiz 14, Benavente 13, Mizutani 6, Nunez 6, Madrach-eluib 3.

TDI 77 – Reyes 21, Velasco 19, Lorenzo 14, Arreza 10, Polusco7, Pangelinan 4, Mafnas 2.

Scoring by quarters: 14-14, 30-32, 54-48, 78-77.

Jericho fined; regrets joining fight

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Jericho Cruz had an unusual birthday gift as the Rain or Shine rookie was fined by the PBA Commissioner's Office for getting involved in a fight during the Elasto Painters' preseason match against newcomer NLEX Road Warriors.

Cruz, who turned 23 on Saturday, was slapped by the Philippine Basketball Association with a P20,000 (around \$450) fine for throwing the ball to NLEX big man Enrico Villanueva in a highly physical tune-up game between the Elasto Painters and the Road Warriors last Sept. 26 at the Meralco Gym in Pasig City.

The incident, which was caught on a video camera, started after Villanueva gave a hard foul on a driving Ryan Arana, who then retaliated by throwing the ball at the NLEX big man.

Villanueva then punched Arana at the back of the head and they exchanged blows and kicks, while Cruz was seen throwing the ball to the NLEX player before cooler heads intervened to prevent the scuffle from escalating into a full blown brawl.

Cruz, the ninth overall pick in this year's PBA Rookie Draft, said he just acted on instinct after seeing the bigger and burly Villanueva attacking Arana, who is one of the Elasto Painters' combo guards. He added that he regretted what he's done.

"I saw [Villanueva] attacking [Arana] so I had to do

something and I threw the ball instantly since my teammate was in trouble. My only mistake was I didn't think first before I acted," said Cruz. "Maybe it was a reflex kind of thing, instinct. They decided to stop the game after the incident."

Cruz, who is starting a young family with wife Mosh Carlos and daughter Pristine Althea, added that he learned his lesson after being summoned to the office of PBA Commissioner Chito Salud and being fined a hefty sum.

"I've learned my lesson. I should always keep my cool. I don't want to get involved in a fight and will just intervene in order to break up a fight instead of joining in. I got carried away," he ended.

Bad blood could have played a part in the incident between NLEX and Rain or Shine, as Villanueva was a former standout of the Ateneo Blue Eagles, while Arana was from its fierce rival De La Salle Green Archers. Both players were also involved in a melee that broke out in one of the Ateneo-La Salle games in the University Athletic Association of the Philippines early 2000.

Villanueva was slapped with a P40,000 (around \$900) fine for his hard foul and first punch, while Arana is fined with the same amount for throwing the ball that started the fight. Former University of Santo Tomas King Tiger Jerry Cruz, Jericho and Arana's teammate, incurred the similar amount after he was seen kicking Villanueva while the NLEX big man was down on the floor.



Sand Juvy Outlawz, Ridin'Darry keep Top 2 spots

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER



Top 2 teams Sand Juvy Outlawz and Naked Fish Ridin'Darry scored contrasting wins in the A division of the 2014 Bud Light Saipan Electronic Darts Association League last week.

The Outlawz eked out a 9-8 win over sister team 101 Proofers to remain on top of the standings with an 86-50 mark, followed closely by the Ridin'Darry, which completed a 12-5 drubbing of the Route33 Mixblood Shooters.

The Naked Fish-backed team is two-games behind with an 84-52 slate, comfortably ahead of two other Sand Juvy-sponsored squads—Predators (68-51) and 101 Proofers (69-67)—and the Mixblood Shooters (68-68).

The Outlawz and Ridin'Darry will have seven more weeks to settle which team will rule the A division.

In other results, Smoke Pub Hunters escaped with a 9-8 decision over the cellar-dwelling Comatose, while the Sand Juvy Bud Bothers won by default



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Sand Juvy No Fear members pose for a photo during a break in their game in the Fanihi B division of the SEDA league last week.

against the Route33 Mafia.

The Jokers Destroyers (84-52) scored an 11-6 triumph over the TRA-Bull Makerz (67-69) in the Masters division, while the Smoke Pub Masters Outlawz (61-75) squeezed out a 9-8 victory against the Shoot Balut (60-76).

The Ladies division standings remained unchanged with the Sand Juvy Vicious Darters leading the pack with a 64-41 record, followed by the 60-45 card of the Jokers Kitty Kats. Naked Fish Dartin' Divas (57-48), Smoke Pub Ladies Bull-it (49-56), Route33 Avengers (40-50), Smoke Pub Mixed Nutz (46-59), and Jokers G-Side Shooters (44-61) complete the Ladies division.

Standings in the Tuesday B division are as follows: Jokers X-ecutioners (82-38), Smoke Pub Marupok (79-41). Route33 MixbloodShooters (68-52), Jokers Dabarkads (64-56), Smoke Pub D'Mekaniks (59-61), Sand Juvy 22 Snipers (58-62), Smoke Pub Dartaholics (57-63), Smoke Pub High On Darts (51-69), Oleai Team Fearless (47-73) and the Sand Juvy Sparkz (35-85).

The Jokers Disciples (70-50), Sand Juvy Ta Chage (68-52), Barcode Breakers (68-52), Smoke Pub Snipers (67-53), Jokers Spartans (67-53), Poseidon Feelin' Lucky (64-56), VFW 'Ombak' Hit'em Up (62-58), Joe's DNA Jump It! (48-57),

Smoke Pub Bull-It (41-39) and Blue Koi's (30-75) are the teams in the Chichirika C division.

The Fanihi B standings show the Sand Juvy Put3ska (84-36) and the Smoke Pub D' Mekaniks (83-37) lock in a tight match for the division crown. The Route33 Mixblood Shooters are in third (68-52), while the Smoke Pub 80 Proofers (58-62) came in fourth. Rounding up the standings are the Route 33 Bud Kings and the Sand Juvy No Fear with similar 51-69 slates, the VFW Warriors (45-75), and the Jokers Chagi Fan in last place (40-80).

The Naked Fish Na'Gupu (75-45), Jonny's Kyodai (70-50), Sand Juvy Team Dart Balas (68-52), Ridin'Darry (67-53), Oneshot (66-54), Joe's Serial Killaz (63-57), Jokers Warriors (50-70) and Smoke Pub Team Figan (21-99) are the teams in the Flame Tree B division.

Route33 Chagi Fan (83-37) leads the Kingfisher C class, followed by Jokers Latte Darts (82-38), Route33 Dart Knights (76-44), Naked Fish Hafa Mas (70-50), Jokers Darty Minded (69-51), Jokers BSEA Sunsports (61-59) and the Oleai Rebelz (39-81).



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Jericho Cruz is congratulated by a Rain or Shine player after the Elasto Painters selected him as the ninth overall pick in this year's PBA Rookie Draft.



**Wong homers
in 9th, Cards
edge Giants**

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**Murray leads
Cowboys' upset
over Seahawks**

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

35 more PBTs set in NMISF meet

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Saipan Swim Club and Tsunami Saipan Swimming Center members finished strong after recording 35 more personal best times in the last 11 events of Northern Mariana Islands Swimming Federation's first meet for the 2014-2015 season held early this month at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.



The additional PBTs were registered in the 100m and 400m freestyle and 50m backstroke races.

In the girls U8 50m backstroke, Tsunami Saipan's Ashley Dangol, SSC's Jinie Thompson, and Tsunami Saipan's Kana

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A participant in the NMISF-sanctioned tournament races in the 50m backstroke event at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool early this month.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

OAA calls for help in renovating Oleai track

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Oceania Athletics Association officials are calling all sports associations in the CNMI to pitch in and contribute their resources for the resurfacing of the Oleai track and field facility.

Harsh weather conditions and years of use contributed on the wear and tear of the facility, as large patches and bubbles can be seen all over the track.



"I've been coming here since 2005. When I first came here for the Micronesian Sub Regional Championship the track was in good order. It has deteriorated and it is now old," said OAA executive director Yvonne Mullins.

"Nobody is to be blamed for the bubbles and patches that formed on the track. The harshness of the weather and the age of the track are some of the factors. It's deteriorating to the



JON PEREZ

Oceania Athletics Association president Geoff Gardner, front left, is on a two-day visit on Saipan to inspect the Oleai track and field facility. Joining him, from left clockwise, are Northern Marianas Athletics president Rey Tebuteb, OAA executive director Yvonne Mullins, OAA vice president Trevor Spittle, NMA secretary general Robin Sapon, and OAA treasurer Titana Juventin, who pose for a group at the Oleai Sports Complex's grandstand.

point you can't use it at all," Mullins said.

OAA president Geoff Gard-

ner added that the track facility usually has a lifespan of seven to eight years only.

"It is starting to show its age, but technology has advanced in

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Tinian extends streak to three

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Tinian won the battle of unbeaten teams in the U18 division of the 2014 BANMI Youth League after prevailing against Kentucky Fried Chicken, 62-51, last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Tinian notched its third victory in as many matches, while KFC had its two-game winning run snapped.

Kobe Mendoza top-scored for Tinian with his 14 points, while Mark Babauta chipped in 11. Four other Tinian players combined for 29 points for the team's balanced offense.

Mendoza still finished in twin digits despite a forgettable first half where he failed to nail a single field goal and drilled only two free throws. Babauta made up for Men-

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Tinian's Ignacio Borja goes up for a reverse layup during the third quarter of their U18 game against Kentucky Fried Chicken in the BANMI youth caging last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.